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THE NEWSPAPER FOR SITTINGBOURNE, ISLE OF SHEPPEY, FAVERSHAM & DISTRICT



Issue No 52  
Available from Wednesday,  
September 3, 2008

## JOB...

Helping you make  
the right choice

PAGES 40-43



## MOTORING...

Subaru unveils  
latest Legacy

PAGES 35-39



## SPORT...

Round-up of all  
the local action

PAGES 46-47



# ACT NOW AND LIVE 10 YEARS LONGER

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## ALSO INSIDE

COMPETITION	PAGE 15
LETTERS	PAGES 16-17
LEISURE	PAGES 18-28
PROPERTY	PAGES 29-33
BUSINESS	PAGES 45

ISSN 1753-123-3



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Picture: PHIL ROYAL



## EXPLOSIVE ENTERTAINMENT

The first Military Mayhem show went with a bang at the Hop Farm this weekend. The event saw dozens of military vehicles, both modern and classic on display, as well as several re-enactments which provided an explosive spectacle for the crowds.

## EXCLUSIVE

BY JAMES ALEXANDRE

**SHOCKING** new figures have revealed people in the wealthiest parts of Swale live ten years longer than those in the most deprived.

Teenage pregnancies, diabetes and obesity levels are higher compared to the rest of the country, according to an NHS report.

Smoking is also rated "significantly worse" than the national average.

Nearly a third of adults light up regularly, accounting for more than 230 deaths each year.

The study also found 20 per cent of expectant mothers smoke while pregnant.

It also notes the low percentage of GCSE achievement and healthy eating adults as the reason for the bleak assessment.

The 2008 Health Profile for Swale says in its introduction that the district is "mixed" when compared to the England average.

The report's authors say: "Adults appear to lead less healthy lifestyles, and physical activity in children and GCSE achievement appear worse than average."

"However violent crime, claimants of benefits for mental illness and children's tooth decay appear better than average."

Cllr Mike Haywood, chairman of Swale's community scrutiny panel which is to discuss the report's findings, said: "This is the first time the council has taken such an interest in health, previously seen as just a domain of the NHS."

"But it is as much of a responsibility of district authorities and the county council as it is of GPs and the health service"

"It's not just about going to the leisure centre,  
CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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## TOP TV CLIPS



Full screen

**1** People from all over the world visit Dover to try to swim to France. See the community channel @ yourkenttv.co.uk



Full screen

**2** Actress Brenda Blethyn visits Ramsgate's Granville Theatre. See the leisure channel @ yourkenttv.co.uk



Full screen

**3** Gills boss Mark Stimson talks about the difficulty of transfer windows. See the sport channel @ yourkenttv.co.uk

SEE OUR SISTER PAPERS KENT ON SUNDAY  
AND THE SATURDAY EDITION FOR ALL THE  
WEEKEND'S COUNTY NEWS AND SPORT

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YOUR MONEY  
- YOUR LOSS!Swindler was  
snared after  
data records  
cross-check

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

**BENEFITS** cheat Adam Jeffrey has been given a two-year conditional discharge after swindling more than £900 in handouts from council coffers.

The 27-year-old, of Stanley Avenue, Queenborough, claimed housing and tax benefits after failing to notify Swale council of a change in his circumstances.

At Sittingbourne Magistrates' Court on August 21 Jeffrey pleaded guilty to knowingly receiving overpayments of £924.90. He was ordered to pay costs of £100.

He had been arrested earlier that day, having missed a previous hearing.

The benefits cheat was caught through a data-matching exercise in Department for Work and Pensions records.

Swale council's investigation team leader Janice Watts said: "This conviction sends out a clear message that we will take tough action on those people who knowingly try to claim money they are not entitled to. "We have already taken steps to recover this money."

The conviction adds further weight to Yoursale's Your Money - Your Loss crackdown on benefits cheats.

We have teamed up with Swale council to expose and prosecute the

con-artists who plague society by taking money they do not deserve.

As part of the drive we are calling on our readers to help root out the cheats who drained more than £295,000 of taxpayers' money from council coffers last year alone.

This six-figure sum was swindled by 46 fraudsters, who submitted bogus claims during the 2007/08 financial year.

A dozen were prosecuted, receiving community punishment orders.

Eighteen offenders accepted administrative penalties - a fine amounting to 30 per cent of the overpaid benefits they received - and the remaining 16 were handed cautions.

Swale council's senior investigator for counterfeiting and corruption, Nick Saunders, said the Your Money - Your Loss campaign, launched in March, was reaping rewards.

He said: "The campaign is certainly having a positive effect and I would like to thank your readers and Yoursale for helping us in the fight against benefit fraud."

"Members of the fraud team have commented that a number of callers have said that the Yoursale stories had been the reason for their making contact with us."

"We assess all the reports we receive and make initial inquiries with other organisations before launching full scale investigations."

• If you know a fraudster call the council's benefit fraud hotline on 01795 417714 or go the website at [www.swale.gov.uk/doitonline.co.uk](http://www.swale.gov.uk/doitonline.co.uk)

yoursale  
NEWS IN BRIEFDisney's seat  
contested in  
by-election

A BY-ELECTION has been called for the Teynham and Lynsted seat made vacant by the death of Swale councillor John Disney.

The election will be on Thursday, October 2, and prospective candidates can contact Swale council's democratic services team for a nomination pack. Completed forms must be received by noon on Friday.

A separate by-election caused by the resignations of Chris Boden and Gemma Wray is scheduled for Thursday, September 25, to be held at Minster Cliffs and Sheerness East respectively.

Further information about standing as a candidate can be found at <http://www.swale.gov.uk/index.cfm?articleid=4967>. To request a nomination pack, e-mail [elections@swale.gov.uk](mailto:elections@swale.gov.uk) or call 01795 417558.

Length of life  
affected by  
your address

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

but about making information widely available and encouraging exercise more generally, such as walking."

The Eastern and Coastal Kent Primary Care Trust and Kent County Council have been invited to attend the meeting to discuss the findings.

Cllr Haywood said: "The purpose of the meeting is for the panel to get a better idea of the inequalities that exist. For example if you live in Woodstock in Sittingbourne, at the moment your life expectancy is ten years longer than it is if you live in Sheerness."

He said the council hoped to bring together the various agencies for health and social services during the course of its review over the next nine months.

The scrutiny panel will also discuss a separate report submitted by Swale Forward, the council's regeneration group, to address the skills shortage and the need to encourage higher-value jobs to the borough.

The committee meets tomorrow at Swale House at 7pm.

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# Town caught on the hop



THE crowds were out in force for this year's hop festival as thousands celebrated Faversham's famous legacy long into the night.

Bands provided the soundtrack to a lively weekend as an estimated 20,000 people packed the town's streets, pubs and restaurants, enjoying glorious sunshine on Saturday.

Morris sides from across the UK converged on the town with dozens of dances staged in the streets in a variety of styles.

Stilt-walkers and street entertainers added to the carnival atmosphere, with beer tents set up in Market Place to cater to the influx of visitors.

Almost the entire town centre was taken over for the weekend's celebra-

BY GARETH ARNOLD

tion, as craft stalls lined Preston Street, West Street, East Street, Market Place and Court Street, selling everything from books and toys to handmade cards, pottery, ethnic clothing and jewellery.

Bands, both alternative and traditional, played on three stages in Market Place, upper Preston Street and outside the Swan and Harlequin pub in Quay Lane.

The modern festival has been running for 18 years, starting as a much smaller event attracting fewer than 3,000 visitors.

But it is based on the traditional celebrations enjoyed by transient agricultural workers who would travel miles to enjoy a working holiday in the hop gardens and orchards surrounding Faversham.



## Driver beaten by robbers

A VICIOUS robbery in Faversham saw a man beaten and sprayed in the face with an unknown liquid.

The attack happened on Wednesday, August 27 at about 5.30am in Front Brents.

The victim was sitting in his white Ford Transit when he was approached by three men wearing woollen hats and dark clothing.

They dragged him out, punched him in the face and sprayed a liquid in his face before jumping in the van and speeding off. It was later found in Aylesham, near Canterbury.

The victim suffered bruising but did not need treatment.

Sergeant Stuart Samson said: "These three need to be caught. They carried out this vicious robbery with no thought for the victim. We urged anyone with information to come forward."

"I would like to hear from people who were in the area at the time or who may have seen the van being driven through Faversham and along the A2 towards Brenley Corner."

Contact Kent Police quoting reference CY14606/08 on 01795 419306 or Kent Crimstoppers on 0800 555111.

## M2 biker dies after accident



CRASH SITE: Airlift awaits Suzuki rider

A MOTORCYCLIST died after crashing into the central reservation of the M2 on Saturday.

The accident happened on the coast-bound section of the carriageway between Faversham and Sittingbourne at about 3.30pm.

The road was closed for more than three hours.

The unnamed victim, from Brentwood, Essex, was riding a black Suzuki Bandit machine.

He was flown to a London hospital but later died.

An eyewitness said: "He was airlifted to hospital but going over the barrier like that he didn't have a chance."

Motorists spent two hours queuing on the carriageway before being diverted onto the opposite side and back up on to the A2.

Two ambulances and the Kent Air Ambulance attended the scene.

Witnesses are asked to contact Kent Police's Serious Collisions Investigation Unit on 01622 798538.

## Toxic shock doc decision angers grieving family

THE Faversham family of Sean Phillips, who died after two doctors failed to diagnose a toxic infection after routine surgery, have branded the General Medical Council's decision to lift restrictions on the two surgeons "disgraceful."

Mr Phillips, 31, died after going into Southampton General for knee surgery in June 2000.

He developed a rare infection called toxic shock syndrome which was not diagnosed by the two doctors treating him, Dr Rajeev Srivastava and Dr Amit Misra.

Both were found guilty of manslaughter at Winchester Crown Court and received 18-month jail sentences, suspended for two years, as well as a ban on practising medicine.

Both were later cleared to practise again, but under supervision.

But now the General Medical Council has decided to lift the ban on

Dr Srivastava, arguing his fitness to practise was no longer impaired.

Dr Misra is still subject to supervision. The council said there was no evidence Dr Srivastava posed any risk to patients.

In a statement, they said: "The panel considers that public confidence in the medical profession has been protected by your period of suspension, subsequent period of conditional registration and your successful retraining in a new speciality."

Dr Srivastava has worked as a specialist registrar in the Department of Biochemical Medicine at Ninewells Hospital and Medical School in Dundee since July 2006.

He said in his evidence to the fitness to practise panel that he had no intention of returning to orthopaedic surgery and that after an eight-year gap in training he would be "unemployable" in that field.

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

Antisocial metro driver  
given warning by police

A DRIVER caught doing doughnuts in a Rover Metro has been told off by police.

A 20-year-old Herne Bay man was caught revving his engine and creating large circular skid marks in Central Parade, Herne Bay, at 4.20pm on Wednesday, August 27.

Officers, who received a call from concerned onlookers, gave the driver a warning and took his details.

Neighbourhood Inspector for the area Gordon Etheridge said: "It is disappointing that a need exists to have to remind motorists to drive respectfully and sensibly.

"I would like to warn those who use their cars in an antisocial manner that we will not hesitate in taking action against them."

Trouser band's new song  
trumpets the jellyfish

WHITSTABLE'S weirdest band The Trouser Trumpets has released a new single – an anthem to Jellyfish.

Save The Jellyfish, is now available to buy on CD, priced £3.50.

The 4 track EP also features a live version of Ali Baba's Camel, plus studio recordings of Pasadena and Hey Jose.

Save The Jellyfish can also be downloaded at [www.trousertrumpets.co.uk](http://www.trousertrumpets.co.uk) along with the soon to be re-released Every Day Is Christmas Day With You.

Find out why Jesus Is  
Magic at comedy festival

A HIT comedy film that premiered at the Edinburgh Festival will be screened in Whitstable in September.

Hard hitting comic film Jesus Is Magic, starring Sarah Silverman, previewed at the Edinburgh Fringe and will be shown at the Horsebridge Arts Centre on Saturday, September 20, at 3.30pm as part of the Whitstable Winkle Comedy Festival.

Tickets are £5 on 01227 281174.

Saturday drugs tests  
reveal just one offender

JUST one drinker was caught with drugs last Saturday out of nearly 200 tested in a police crackdown using sniffer dogs in Herne Bay and Canterbury.

Officers tested 187 people yet there were no indications of drugs, other than background traces, on all but one 27-year-old Margate man, who was arrested in the Beer Cart Arms and issued with a caution for the possession of cocaine.

# Programme catches 100 days and nights of reality

## An ordinary family to finally hit our screens

■ BY GARETH ARNOLD

A MAJOR new eight-part documentary to be screened on Channel 4 later this month will star the Hughes family from Canterbury.

The family – dad Simon, mum Jane, daughters Jessica, Emily and Charlotte and son Tom – have agreed to be filmed around the clock, offering a unique insight into the inner workings of British domesticity.

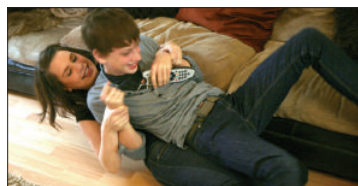
Filmed over 100 days and nights, The Family was directed by BAFTA-winning Jonathan Smith, and couples traditional documentary filmmaking techniques with purpose-built camera technology.

Twenty one cameras were fitted in the Hughes' semi-detached house while the property next door became a production gallery.

Dad Simon, 44, describes his role within the family as "cook, taxi, painter and decorator, encourager, the default person to ask anything, provider, giver of cuddles and the one who has to pretend to be in charge."

His wife of 22 years, Jane, 40, works for a charity. Jane defines her responsibilities as "peacekeeper, general dogsbody and keeper of all knowledge of where people have to be and where their belongings are."

A frequent visitor to the house is eldest daughter and stay-at-home mum Jessica, 22, who lives nearby with her fiancé Pat Lee and their 10-month-old daughter Ruby. She describes the dynamics of her family as "loving, close, loud and food obsessed". The series



**FAMILY AFFAIR:** The entire Hughes family were filmed day and night for the Channel 4 documentary



will conclude with Jessica and Pat's wedding.

Mr Smith said: "What is remarkable about the Hughes family is that they are pretty unremarkable. They're an antidote to the larger-than-life characters we see on television today. Their selling point is their normality."

They are charismatic and interesting but they aren't particularly unusual. What we wanted to do is present a portrait of British family life in the 21st century that contains universal themes everyone can relate to."

The series charts everything from argu-

ments over bedtimes and curfews, to wedding plans and work issues, following the family as they cope with everything life throws at them.

Simon Dickson, Channel 4's deputy head of documentaries, said: "The family is the institution that tells us more about the way we live today than any other. This minutely observed series offers an insight into how a large British family responds to the different challenges and pressures that throws at them."

The series starts at 9pm on Wednesday, September 17.



## Hear cry of the baby wolves

FOUR Iberian wolf pups have finally shown their faces at Howletts this week.

Shy by nature, the pups have been protected by their family whilst adapting to their new surroundings, but are now roaming more freely in their enclosure.

Born just a few months ago, the one male and three female pups bring the Howlett's Iberian Wolf pack to nine animals.

Head of carnivores, Jim Vassie, said: "Howletts has only very recently started keeping Iberian wolves and since the arrival

of a pair from a Spanish zoo in 2006 we have had two successful litters with a 100 per cent survival rate."

The Iberian wolf is classified as lower risk (IUCN) but there are only 2,000 wolves present in the Iberian Peninsula, 300 of which roam Portugal.

In addition to persecution from humans there is a continuing degradation of their natural habitat, a reduction in the population of prey species, and problems associated with feral dogs that compete for food.

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**RUNNER:** Mark Radley is running the Relay for Life to show support for his wife Barbara in her cancer battle

# Builder relays his support for sick wife

BY NERISSA BLOWER

A CONSTRUCTION worker will join hundreds of runners on the Cancer Research Relay For Life in support of his wife's battle with cancer.

Mark Radley, 44, who works for Cardy Construction in Canterbury, aims to raise awareness of the charity, and support his wife in her battle against cancer.

Barbara Radley, 56, has been diagnosed with breast cancer and although her case is considered serious, she continues to work as a cashier at a Canterbury motor service.

Barbara has finished chemotherapy and is on medication, which she will have to take for the next five years.

Mr Radley said: "I feel I need to run the relay to do everything I can to keep active and support my wife throughout her illness."

"I have known about the Relay for Life for a while, through both family members and organisers, but I have never been able to attend myself due to back injuries."

"I hope to make people more aware of the charity and get together with others who are in the same situation as us. As well as the relay, I will be attending the Run 10k event also held by Cancer Research in October."

Along with several family members, Mr Radley will arrive in fancy dress to add to the carnival atmosphere of the relay.

The charity says the relay is not only a memorial to the victims of cancer intended to raise money, but a celebration of the lives of the survivors, and the continuous research funded by the charity.

Mr Radley will be part of the Candle of Hope Ceremony at the end of the relay, where he will dedicate a candle to Barbara and her ongoing bravery and strength throughout her battle with the disease.

The final ceremony marks a time for relay goers such as Mr Radley to reflect on the importance of events such as these to cope with cancer.

The Relay For Life will be held from September 13 to 14 at Canterbury High School Athletics Track.

To take part in the relay or to find out more about fund-raising ideas with Cancer Research UK visit [www.cancer.org.uk/relay](http://www.cancer.org.uk/relay).

## Tortilla Army joins the Ether line-up

CANTERBURY hard rock band Tortilla Army play two of their scorching tunes for the Ether.

Following their performance, the band talk to presenter Charley Vines about some of their unusual inspirations, and name several of their favourite artists performing in Kent.

The Ether is a feature on [www.yourkenttv.co.uk](http://www.yourkenttv.co.uk). Tortilla Army are one of several Canterbury acts to have featured on the show, which has also seen performances from solo artistes John Woode and Duncan Black.

VIEW THIS CLIP ON

[yourkenttv.co.uk](http://yourkenttv.co.uk)

Your LOCAL TV ONLINE



yourswale

NEWS IN BRIEF

## Celebrate 60 years of original ska music at Arthur's birthday bash

SKANKING is expected at The Horsebridge Centre in Whitstable this Friday as TwoTone legends Arthur Kay & The Originals reform to celebrate lead singer Arthur Kitchener's 60th birthday.

The Herne Bay-based front man will be joined by other members drawn from Maidstone, Ramsgate and Canterbury, as well as special guest support from members of The Specials AKA and The Selecter.

Everyone attending will receive a free cd single including a track from the forthcoming Arthur Kay & The Originals album plus a couple of old favourites.

The ska extravaganza is on Friday at The Horsebridge Centre, 11 Horsebridge Road, Whitstable, CT5 1AF. T

Tickets cost £12 in advance, with concessions £10, plus booking fee.

They can be booked at the venue or by calling 01227 281174.

## Calm call centre girl given commendation

A 999 operator has been honoured for her role in calming a gunman and his family following a fatal shooting in Chilham last year.

At 1am on Sunday, November 18, 2007, Police Staff Employee Kayleigh Archer took a call from a villager in Canterbury Road who told her he had shot an intruder at his home.

The dead man, Matt James Clements, 41, from the Ashford area, suffered a gunshot wound to the chest and was later found by police on scaffolding outside the house.

Kenneth Bachelor, 50, who has pleaded not guilty to murder, will stand trial at Canterbury Crown Court on March 2, 2009.

Colleagues serving with PSE Archer said she remained calm and composed whilst the man appeared to be hysterical and suicidal.

At one stage, PSE Archer was passed between the caller, his girlfriend and the girlfriend's daughter.

With each of these people in turn, she used her first name and quickly built a rapport, taking particular care with the 13-year-old girl to calm her in the face of what was clearly a frightening experience.

For her role PSE Archer received The Chief Constable's Commendation last week at a ceremony in Maidstone.

Chief Constable Michael Fuller said: "I never fail to be inspired by the selflessness shown by the winners of these awards and it gives me enormous pride to thank those receiving them."



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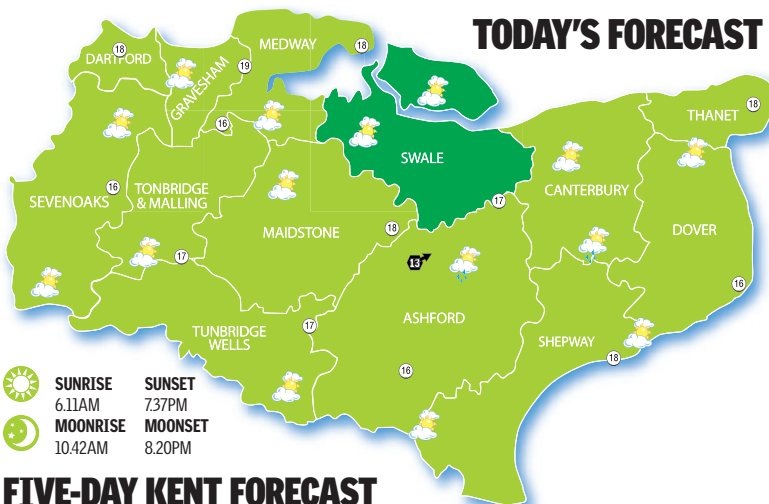


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**MOONRISE** 10.42AM  
**MOONSET** 8.20PM

## TODAY'S FORECAST



## WEEKEND HIGH TIDES

Chatham	Saturday	4:19pm	6.0m
	Sunday	4:52pm	5.8m
Dover	Saturday	2:33pm	6.6m
	Sunday	3:05pm	6.3m
Dungeness	Saturday	2:38pm	7.6m
	Sunday	3:12pm	7.3m
Ramsgate	Saturday	3:03pm	5.0m
	Sunday	3:35pm	4.8m
Sheerness	Saturday	4:09pm	5.7m
	Sunday	4:42pm	5.5m
Whitstable	Saturday	4:16pm	5.3m
	Sunday	4:47pm	5.2m



## AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Amsterdam	18°C	Madrid	28°C
Athens	28°C	New York	27°C
Barcelona	29°C	Paris	20°C
Beijing	27°C	Rome	29°C
Bombay	29°C	Sydney	19°C
Cape Town	15°C	Tenerife	25°C
Cardiff	16°C	Tokyo	29°C
Gibraltar	29°C	Vancouver	16°C
Hong Kong	33°C	Warsaw	19°C
Las Palmas	24°C	Wellington	14°C

## FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon		Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
Ashford	16°C	18°C	18°C	18°C	19°C	Gravesend	17°C	19°C	19°C	19°C	20°C
Canterbury	18°C	18°C	18°C	18°C	20°C	Maidstone	16°C	18°C	19°C	19°C	20°C
Chatham	18°C	18°C	18°C	18°C	20°C	Ramsgate	18°C	18°C	18°C	18°C	20°C
Dartford	17°C	19°C	19°C	19°C	20°C	Rochester	18°C	18°C	18°C	18°C	20°C
Dover	16°C	16°C	17°C	16°C	17°C	Sevenoaks	15°C	16°C	17°C	16°C	17°C
Faversham	18°C	18°C	18°C	18°C	20°C	Sittingbourne	18°C	18°C	18°C	18°C	20°C
Folkestone	16°C	16°C	17°C	16°C	17°C	Tonbridge	16°C	18°C	18°C	18°C	19°C
Gillingham	18°C	18°C	18°C	18°C	20°C	Tun Wells	16°C	18°C	18°C	18°C	19°C

## yourswale NEWS IN BRIEF

# Set a date to talk about the town centre

AN OPPORTUNITY to influence the future of Sittingbourne town centre is open to residents later this month.

Two surgeries with Cllr John Wright, portfolio holder for regeneration, will allow businesses to ask any questions they have about the proposed developments.

The council is in the middle of developing a draft masterplan for the town centre which will be up for public consultation in the autumn.

A council planning officer will also be on hand to offer advice and assistance.

Cllr Wright said: "Regeneration is the council's number one aim and this discussion with the local business community is an important part of the regeneration process."

"We want to work with partners and local communities to progress the regeneration of Sittingbourne town centre and I look forward to hearing their views."

Appointments can be made by contacting Swale's regeneration projects officer Jill Reed by Wednesday, September 10, at the latest on 01795 417592 or email [jillreed@swale.gov.uk](mailto:jillreed@swale.gov.uk)

The one-to-one sessions are at 34 High Street, Sittingbourne, on Tuesday, September 16, from 6-8pm and Thursday September 18, between 8-9.30am.

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# yourlocalinterview

## QUESTION & ANSWER

### DARREN RYDER



**Q** Can you tell us a little about yourself?

**A** I am from sunny Wales but moved to London to join the Metropolitan Police. I run the neighbourhood team at Sittingbourne with police constables and police community support officers.

**Q** When did you first become interested in joining the police force?

**A** I was about six. The entire male side of my family have been in the police force so I could say it's in my blood. I thought it was important to get an education first though, so I went on to further education and university.

**Q** How does it differ from other jobs?

**A** I like the varying change and the dynamic work life, as you never know what's around the corner and neither do the criminals. I absolutely love this job and work really hard to prevent and detect crime. It's about making a difference to people's lives and catching criminals.

**Q** What brought you to Kent?

**A** I joined the Metropolitan police first and was assigned to south-east London. I have worked in Lewisham, Deptford, central London and I was a firearms officer. I have also worked on operations in Brixton and Peckham. I decided to transfer to Kent police in 2000 and I have never looked back.

**Q** Tell us about your role heading the new Mid Kent neighbourhood task team?

**A** I will run the task team for Mid Kent; I will have five constables to assist me in reducing crime and anti-social behaviour. We will have two bases, one at Maidstone and one at Sittingbourne. It will be a challenging but rewarding role and I intend to make it a dynamic one. With the right equipment and team, which I know I have, I believe we can make significant impacts on these issues.

**Q** How did it all come about and what does your role involve?

**A** Pilots for task teams were run in other parts of the county and results were positive. The team gives teeth to neighbourhood officers who can benefit from this extra resource. This will allow enforcement of the issues that matter to the public. It's important members of the public come to their local PACT meeting as this is where it is decided which issues are to be focused upon by their neighbourhood officers.

**Q** Who will be in the neighbourhood task team?

**A** I will run the team along with five constables: PC Steven Hobbs (team leader), PC Roy Haffenden, PC Sean Quinn, PC Andy Lynn and PC Mark Foulger.

**Q** What do you hope to achieve in this new role?

**A** I hope to improve the confidence of the public in Kent police by delivering results. It is

important to get things right the first time and have a named contact for the public. That is what local officers are for. If you are unsure who your local officers are, please visit the Kent police website and search via your postcode. Crime and anti-social behaviour is our business and I want to work with my colleagues and partners to drive this forward. The public need to know we are dealing with their concerns.

**Q** How has Mid Kent changed over the time you have been in Kent police and how does it compare to other areas?

**A** Mid Kent, as with all other areas, has changed significantly over the last few years especially with the expanding role of neighbourhood policing. We are always learning but the officers I have to their up most to deliver a high quality service. We don't always get it right but we certainly learn from our mistakes and try to make changes for the better. Mid Kent is quite diverse but this just adds to the challenge.

**Q** What can Kent police do to ensure incidents of knife and gun crime plaguing London do not spread into the county?

**A** Visible police patrols are the key to improving public confidence, and using the necessary stop and search powers where appropriate. We must also educate the younger people of society. Students want to learn and understand the police and their powers. Kent police is fortunate in that it suffers from very few incidents of knife crime, and myself and the new neighbourhood task team will work hard to ensure that this continues to be the case.

The police sergeant took the time to talk to Jon Coates about his appointment as head of the new Mid Kent neighbourhood task team and the challenges facing community policing in Maidstone and Swale.

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## EDITOR'S CHOICE

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# Rocket man aims to cross Channel

BY STEVE KNIGHT

ROCKET man Yves Rossy will attempt to make history this month when he launches himself across the Channel.

The Swiss national is aiming to be the first person to complete a jet-propelled flight from Calais to Dover on Wednesday, September 24.

Rossy, who celebrated his 49th birthday last Wednesday, completed a test flight at the end of last month with an eight-foot carbon-fibre wing powered by four engines.

He flew for more than 22 miles – the equivalent of a cross-Channel trip.

Afterwards Rossy said: "Everything went well. It was awesome.

"It's my longest flight with this wing. If there are no technical problems it will be OK for the English Channel.

"I did the distance. Everything is going swimmingly."

Rossy's stunt will mark 99 years since Louis Bleriot became the first man to cross the Channel in an aircraft.

It will be broadcast live in 165 countries by the National Geographic Channel and will also be on website [www.natgeotv.com](http://www.natgeotv.com).

Rossy, who is nicknamed FusionMan, said: "My flight will be a tribute to all those who came before me, many of whom were killed."

The test flight on August 20 saw the former commercial and fighter pilot leap from a small plane 7,500ft above the town of Bex, in Switzerland.

Despite having to postpone the jump several times because of "electronic interference problems", Rossy reached speeds of 180mph as he flew to Villeneuve and back wearing a heat-resistant suit similar to those worn by racing



**FUSIONMAN:** Yves Rossy plans to cross the English Channel using unique jet wings strapped to his back

drivers. He was able to alter direction in the sky by shifting his weight or simply turning his head and shoulders.

When he had reached his destination of Bex airfield, he released two parachutes at 5,000ft and 4,000ft to land safely and with two litres of fuel remaining.

Rossy's planned Channel crossing came as news to Dover Coastguard, although a spokesman said it was not a legal requirement for the rocketeer to contact them.

She added: "It's something we would like to be told about, but we are in the dark at the

moment. For instance we would like to know if he will be in communication with somebody during the flight.

"It's not the sort of thing you can just go ahead and do. He will have to obey the rules of the Dover Straits, of which there are many."

Rossy staged his first public flight in May, when he wowed crowds with an acrobatic display above the Alps. He later admitted a 360-degree flip was to "impress the girls".

For more information on Yves Rossy, including videos and photos of him in action, visit [www.fusionman.ch](http://www.fusionman.ch).



**SNOW WHITE:** Emma Barton should avoid apples

## Come and join the auditions

GIRLS from across Kent are being given the chance to tread the boards with the stars of this year's Marlowe pantomime.

Auditions for the juvenile ensemble of Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs take place in Canterbury on Sunday, September 21.

Choreographer Abi Jouxson-Mair, who comes from Chatham, will be putting girls aged between eight and 16 through their paces at the Prince of Wales Community Centre in Military Road. Registration is at 3pm and the auditions start at 3.30pm.

Snow White producer Paul Hendy said they would be looking for the usual combination of girls who can sing and dance. He said: "Apart from that, all we ask is that they smile!"

He went on: "The girls should come along to the auditions ready to dance and we ask that they don't bring any food, only water. If anyone feels anxious about auditioning on their own – don't! Everyone will be taught a routine and asked to perform it in groups."

For any queries about the auditions contact Alison Grant at Evolution Productions by emailing [ali@evolution-productions.co.uk](mailto:ali@evolution-productions.co.uk)

Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs opens at the Marlowe on Saturday, November 29, and runs until mid-January.

It stars TV presenter and magician Stephen Mulhern (last year's Aladdin) and EastEnders actress Emma Barton, along with a talented supporting cast. Further details are available from the box office on 01227 787787 or see [www.marlowetheatre.com](http://www.marlowetheatre.com)



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# Innovation to beat superbugs

BY JENNA PUDELEK

ENTREPRENEURS and businesses in Kent with products or technologies that could help prevent the spread of superbugs have been invited to take part in a new programme by the NHS.

NHS Innovations South East, which helps health service inventors promote their ideas, said it believed industry could play an active role in helping combat the killer infections.

It said automotive, IT, food and drink, engineering and manufacturing firms across the region could help the NHS beat the bugs.

The Office for National Statistics announced on Thursday that the number of death certificates in England and Wales mentioning *Clostridium difficile* (C diff) increased 28 per cent in 2007.

Deaths from the superbug have risen year on year since 1999, the authority found.

KOS Media has been running a hand hygiene campaign highlighting that simply

washing your hands can help stop the spread of superbugs.

We have been working with the NHS to raise awareness about how infections spread and good control and prevention methods.

Reducing healthcare-associated infections (HCAIs) like C diff and MRSA is one of the top priorities for the NHS and the Department of Health believes new technologies and equipment, as well as good hygiene practices, can help it achieve its targets more quickly.

Jo James, chief executive of the Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce, said: "My initial view is that MRSA and C diff are problems that they [the NHS] have not managed to find a solution to yet and they are growing problems."

"Why not look to industry where there is a wealth of experience and call on the experience that is out there? It is not just a hospital problem; it is a problem that affects us all."

"There are so many industries...where they have got lots of things already there and a huge amount of experts dealing with



the problem [of infection control and prevention].

"I think it is a great initiative to look outside and look for help and pull the resources to combat superbugs."

The chamber is an independent body that was set up to support business growth and enterprise in Kent.

NHS Innovation South East is one of nine hubs across the country. The Smart Solutions scheme is being run nationally by NHS Innovations North West.

Brian Griffiths, the project director, said: "Our aim is to find the most effective solutions to control HCAIs and we are keeping an open mind as to where these could come from."

"Whether it is a product from a medical company, something developed for a completely different purpose or even an idea from an inventor in the spare room, we will assess its potential."

Dr Sara Mumford, director of infection prevention and control at Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust, said: "This



is a very positive and welcome initiative. If companies come up with potentially effective ways of combating infections we are always willing to take part in trials of new products."

**• If you think you have an idea or solution that can help the NHS beat superbugs visit [www.smartsolutionsforhcai.co.uk](http://www.smartsolutionsforhcai.co.uk).**

## New bus posters part of drink-drive crackdown

HARD-hitting posters are being carried on buses across the county highlighting the dangers of drink driving.

Kent Highway Services' 'drinking and driving wrecks lives' campaign has gone out across 72 Stagecoach buses, covering Maidstone, Ashford, Dover, Thanet, Canterbury, Folkestone, Dartford, Gravesend and Tunbridge Wells.

KHS' road safety chief Anne-Marie Penny said the posters were being run to remind drivers that drink driving is dangerous all year round, not just at Christmas.

She said: "Drink-driving wrecks lives all year-round and drivers need to realise that it's just as dangerous in the summer as it is at Christmas."

"You don't have to be drunk to be dangerous – even one drink can affect your judgement and reactions."

"By using these bus posters, we can reach more drivers than a static poster could and it's vital that we get our message out there to try and prevent needless tragedies caused by drink driving."

Kent police figures reveal a total of 250 motorists are arrested every month on the county's road for drink driving offences.

Drivers caught under the influence of alcohol or drugs will be given a mandatory ban, a fine of up to £5,000 or a possible prison sentence.

The poster campaign will run across Kent until September 29.



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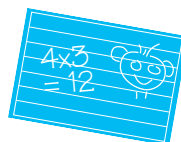
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## BREAK TIME

## History of slavery on the curriculum

THE slave trade is to become a compulsory part of secondary school history classes from September.

Britain's involvement in slavery will join other mandatory topics such as the two world wars and the Holocaust.

Pupils will learn how the trade affected the industrial revolution, the development of trade, and colonialism, and how slavery was abolished.

The long-term impact of slavery, including the civil rights movement, will also be studied, with ministers hoping this will improve children's understanding of the make-up of modern Britain.

Children's Minister Kevin Brennan said: "Although we may sometimes be ashamed to admit it, the slave trade is an integral part of British history."

"It is inextricably linked to trade, colonisation, industrialisation and the British empire."

"It is important that children learn about this and the links to wider world history, such as the American civil rights movement, the repercussions of which are still being felt today."

"That is why the slave trade will join the British empire, two world wars and the Holocaust as compulsory parts of the secondary school history curriculum from this month."

The curriculum has been developed with the assistance of the Understanding Slavery Initiative, which encourages teachers, educators and young people to examine the history and legacy of the transatlantic slave trade through museum artefacts.

**SEND your schools news and pictures to [yourswale@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:yourswale@kosmedia.co.uk). You can also upload your own video clips of schools events on to [www.yourkenttv.co.uk](http://www.yourkenttv.co.uk)**



# Heads return papers in SATS marking fiasco

BY GARETH ARNOLD

THOUSANDS of SATS exam papers are to be marked again in the wake of complaints from headteachers highlighting inconsistent scoring and clerical errors.

Many papers are being reassessed at the request of schools as many heads take issue with the quality of this year's marking, which was handled by ETS Europe.

Lisa Evans, head of Graveney Primary School, said her school's reports were late out this year as they were forced to wait for key stage two papers to be returned.

She said: "I have sent four papers back, one with clerical errors on a maths paper and the others for inconsistent marking."

"I am absolutely appalled with the whole system considering the importance placed on these exams by the Government. The pressure my pupils have to go through to sit these exams then to find that many of the papers have been inaccurately marked makes a mockery of the system."

"I would like to see these exams scrapped, as has already happened in Wales and Scotland, and replaced by a more reliable assessment system undertaken by professionals."

Brenda Windsor, of Hernhill Primary, said the school only received its results very late in the year and it had been "very stressful".

She said: "We received our scripts and results on July 15, obviously putting pressure on staff to go through the papers to check for accuracy and consistency at an incredibly busy time of year."

"We delayed sending out the school reports in the hope the results might turn up and be sent out with them as usual, but had to eventually



**TESTING TIMES:** Primary school headteachers have returned thousands of SATS papers on behalf of pupils

include a note to let parents know they would be sent out as soon as we had them."

"Despite having limited time, we have been through all the papers and found some inaccuracies, but only one which we believe has changed the levels. That script has been returned for remarking."

The five-year contract to administer the SATS tests, awarded to American-backed company ETS Europe, has been scrapped as a result of widespread condemnation.

The reassessments will be handled by The National Assessment Agency, with help from the company previously contracted to conduct

the tests, Edexcel. David Gee, managing director of NAA, said: "Following the delays and data entry problems experienced earlier this year, it is crucial that the reviews process is robust, effective and retains the confidence of schools in the outcomes of the tests."

"If schools have evidence that the marking scheme has been misapplied, they should apply for a review and the NAA will ensure the application is properly evaluated and, where necessary, scripts remarked."

Schools have until September 10 – ten days after they return from summer holidays – to appeal against the marking of SATS papers.

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## Why we should always take pride in British sports success

BRITISH sport is rubbish, isn't it? You disagree? As it happens, so do I.

But had I asked the question before the Olympics, of someone whose sporting knowledge is gleaned from a national newspaper and that would've been their likely response to "What do you think of British Sport?"

The thing is, the cyclists, rowers, sailors, in fact, most of our medalists at the Beijing Games didn't just suddenly appear and get lucky. They were already established in the top echelons of their sports along with swimmers, archers, squash players and many more.

One of our biggest participation sports – Karate – is where, at the recent WIKF World Championships, England topped the medal table with 12 golds, just under a third of those available from 38 events. A further 16 medals were split equally across silver and bronze.

You didn't know? Can't blame you, it isn't even on the BBC Sport website. Reflect on those figures – the USA won only eight medals in total, just one of them gold.

I haven't bought a national newspaper for years, not since one of them ran a headline on their back page – R.I.P. English Sport. Why? Because we'd lost a football qualifier, a cricket test match and a boxing World Title fight. The editor conveniently forgot we'd won the Five Nations rugby and had two other title fight winners. And the Karate team of course, who were topping the medal table back then, too.

Britons complete at the highest level in most sports, I doubt any other nation can boast the sheer variety of international top class competitors that we do. Sure, the Swiss will always beat us in Winter Sports (except the skeleton bob maybe, where Britain's Kristian Bromley is the reigning World Cup, European and World Champion) but where are they when it comes to Rugby?

The Germans undoubtedly have the upper hand in football post 1966, but when did they last win a cricket match against us? Russian golfers? Nope. Is there an Australian karate team? They didn't win a medal. As for the Chinese – yes, they topped the Olympic table but name me one Chinese darts player, go on!

Yet, somehow, we always return to our disappointments in football. Where did we go wrong? How do we improve? Not by passing stupid laws at grass roots level governing age groups. Next year, talented players who run rings around opponents of their own age won't be able to move up and progress.

Oh no, our dear FA have stipulated that they should remain in their own age group and stagnate, get bored and then probably give up altogether. Way to go. Apt name, FA. Pretty much covers what our national team are likely to win. Perhaps Sir Clive Woodward can take over from Brian Barwick, assuming the British Olympic Association will release him.

Still, don't despair BritSport fans, next time we don't make it to the footie finals, there's sure to be a pentathlete, triathlete or horse rider winning somewhere else. And with environmental and petrol issues continuing, the national sport will be cycling by 2012!

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** All bloggers are supplied with full name and address of the authors. They do not reflect the view of the newspaper but are designed to give our readers the chance to air their views.

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If there is a story in your area you think we should be covering contact the news editor, **Jon Coates**, on 01303 817048 or email him on the details above. If you want to be the next Swale blogger then all you have to do is submit an article to us (of around 550 words) and email it to the news editor. And don't forget, for all the latest news and video from your town log-on to [www.yourswale.co.uk](http://www.yourswale.co.uk).

Write to The Editor, Yourswale, K&S Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR.

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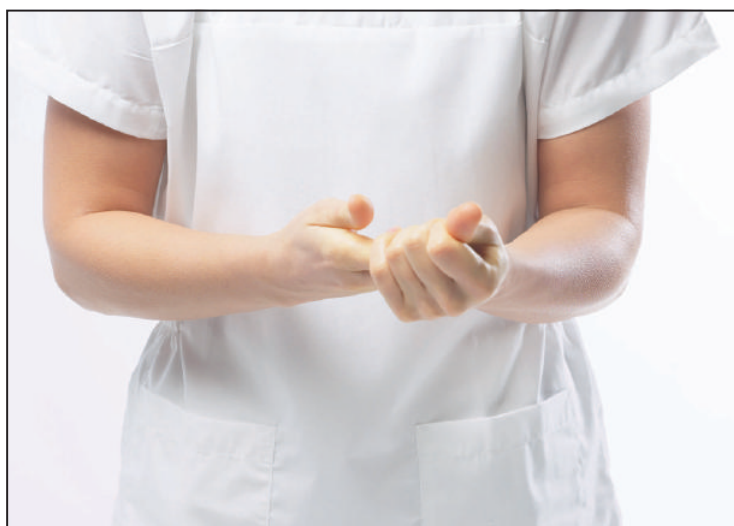
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This year Creamfields is 10 and to celebrate its anniversary and biggest dance event of the year we introduce Creamfields 10 Years The Album.

The world-renowned clubbing brand Cream deliver yet again with a journey

through some of the biggest moments in dance.

Highlights on CD1 come from headliners Faithless, Underworld, Groove Armada, Basement Jaxx, Fatboy Slim & Mylo.

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We have five copies of this great CD up for grabs. To enter, simply answer the question below and send your entry on a postcard along with your email address (if applicable), name, address, and daytime telephone number to Creamfields CD Competition, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent, TN25 6SR. Closing date is September 19, 2008.

**Q) Creamfields marks how many years with this new CD?**

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# yourletters



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## TALK TIME

### NICK PRIOR

The secretary of Faversham Angling Club took the time to talk to Yourswale about fishing tactics and trying to catch that elusive 30lb pike



#### Tell us a little about yourself

I am 39, married to Michelle, have a son called Craig and have lived in Faversham since 1972. I am a local government officer and have worked for Swale council since 1985, when I left the Abbey School.

#### What first interested you in angling?

I started angling quite late in life, at about 13 years old. No one in my family fished, so it was only walking around the lakes in Faversham that I used to sit and watch some of my brother's friends fishing and that's where my interest started. I joined the angling club as a junior member in 1982.

#### What is the most extravagant or unusual thing you have caught?

As a pike angler, any fish over 20lb is considered the magic mark, with anything over 30lb becoming a dream.

Alas, my first 30lb pike still eludes me, but I have been lucky enough to catch a number of fish over 20lb. My personal best - in March this year, weighing in at 25lb 8oz - was caught on an artificial silver lure.

#### Tell us something that people don't tend to know about you

I sang in Ospringe church choir for five years when I was a teenager and one of my middle names is Girling. An ancestor had something to do with the inventor of Girling brakes before moving to the United States.

## YOUR LETTERS

### Sporting success is Major's legacy

I, like many people, enjoyed the Olympic Games as it was interesting to watch many different sports.

Although some were not as interesting as others - and I am sad to say my own sport of judo was one of them.

As someone who has been involved in judo for 53 years and as an Olympic reserve for the 1980 games, I had a job understanding what was happening, so I dread to think what the public thought of it.

As for tae kwon do, a martial art which involved all aspects of striking being reduced to just kicking, was very disappointing.

It was also disappointing that the BBC did not give some coverage to other sports which are not so popular in the UK, such as freestyle wrestling and Greco-Roman wrestling, the latter being in the ancient Olympics.

The best thing was seeing so many medals for Great Britain.

This was due to millions of pounds being injected into elite sports, most which came from the National Lottery.

John Major, the former Conservative Prime Minister, has been congratulated by everyone for starting the lottery and on the radio he said that sport has a harmonising effect on the country.

He also said lottery money was as important to grassroots sports as it was elite sports.

But the most poignant quote was when he said: "Sport encourages youngsters to join a club, not a gang."

I hope that will become a slogan for years to come.



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To leave your remarks, simply click on the 'Add your comments' link and tell us what you think. And remember, [www.yoursware.co.uk](http://www.yoursware.co.uk) is updated daily, bringing you the latest, breaking news from across Faversham, Sittingbourne, Sheerness and all the villages in Swale.

We will include the best on these pages too - ensuring your comments reach the widest possible audience. In addition, if you find your newsagent, supermarket or petrol station runs out of Yoursware before you've picked up your copy, you never need to miss out.

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The Olympics has been a massive success for Team GB, but the real success will be when we increase the number of people who participate in sport, because according to the British Olympic

Association, sports participation in has decreased by 20 per cent.

Remember, sport is not just for the young and elite, but for everyone.

Martin Clarke, Sittingbourne, by email

## Councils need to engage their brains

Black accounts prepared at great public expense by councils give them too much freedom to push

## How about a little courtesy, Rita?

Ms Grootendorst (Yoursware letters, August 27) has obviously had some dispute with a department of either local or central government.

But I think she should reflect before making somewhat ridiculous claims.

Local councils are part of some evil oligarchy pushing millions in this country into poverty?

Come on!

And where is the evidence that millions have been wasted on unnecessary bins?

The wheeled bin system is recognised throughout most of Europe as the safest, cleanest and most cost-effective way of dealing with refuse collection.

Collection from the boundary of properties is the quickest method and therefore the cheapest for taxpayers.

Rude comments about bin men are unhelpful in the extreme. They work in accordance with instructions and perform a physically demanding, essential job in all weathers.

Incidentally, I have no connection, nor have ever had, other than as a taxpayer, with any government organisation, local or national.

I just think some fairness and courtesy are desirable.

E G Egan, by email



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## This Rosbif prefers to avoid the snails

I was amazed to read about the woman growing snails in her bedroom to sell to pubs and restaurants in last week's paper.

The idea of eating the slimy little critters stirs an immediate reaction of revulsion in me and has always been one of my favourite ways of scoffing at the lunacy of the French.

I really can't imagine eating them – whether fried in garlic butter, as preferred in France, or put in a beef stew or seafood platter, as in Spain and Italy.

I was therefore taken aback to read that the Kent grower Helen Howard is struggling to meet demand for the "exotic food".

It seems us Brits will try anything these days. Maybe I am missing out, but I think I'll stick to beef stew without the snail twist.

However, I do want to thank you for bringing this intriguing story to light. Keep up the good work.

Claire Rogers, by email

## Alternative ways of heating our schools

Kent County Council should meet the challenge of dramatic increases in school energy bills this year by installing new energy technologies on school sites.

Grants are available from the Carbon Trust which would allow KCC to have some support in installing solar water heating and solar panels on schools.

KCC faces crippling energy bills for its schools this winter after massive increases in bills this year.

It should make use of available grants and any assistance parent-teacher associations can provide to better insulate schools and to install solar water heating, solar panels and wind turbines where this is appropriate. If KCC bulk buys, it should be able to get far better prices for new energy technologies than individual householders do.

Since the alternative for heating schools is to increase the council tax to meet rising energy bills, we feel sure KCC will want to take action to cut long-term energy costs.

Dr Hazel Dawe, Kent Green Party, by email

## Nominate your GP for carers' award

Looking after a loved one who is sick, disabled or frail is not easy – it can be physically hard, emotionally draining and very isolating.

In a recent study, 78 per cent of unpaid family carers in the South East say their health and wellbeing is worse as a result of caring. Often



CARING AWARDS: Actress Sheila Hancock

the person carers turn to for support is their GP. This support can make all the difference.

The Simplyhealth Carers' Choice Award (in partnership with The Princess Royal Trust for Carers) is looking to celebrate all the good work being done throughout the UK to support carers.

I'd like to draw attention to the Simplyhealth Carers' Choice Award that looks to recognise the work carried out by individual GPs.

Carers can now say thank you by nominating their GP for this award.

This year's prize is £250 each for the winning GP and for you. To nominate, all you need to do is write a letter about how your GP supports you as a carer. Email [gpawards@carers.org](mailto:gpawards@carers.org) or write to the Princess Royal Trust for Carers, Freepost RRRY-JLXK-GZCG, Unit 14, Bourne Court, Southend Road, Woodford Green IG8 8HD. Remember to include contact details for both you and your GP. The closing date is October 10 and more information can be found at [www.carers.org](http://www.carers.org). The winners will be announced in November.

Sheila Hancock, actress, by email

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Pictures: Ian Tilton

**GOOD BOOK:** The cartoon version of The Jungle Book was the last to be produced by Walt Disney himself - here the story is brought to life on stage

# Book into the jungle

## The bear necessities of life brought to the stage

GRAB a vine and swing into the world of The Jungle Book as a popular stage version of the classic tale returns to Kent.

Birmingham Stage Company's hugely successful production is a colourful and exciting family show that brings Rudyard Kipling's beloved story to life. Meet the creatures of the jungle as they battle to protect the life of young Mowgli and embark on an adventure that brings them all sorts of surprises.

The company commissioned children's playwright Stuart Paterson to adapt the 100-year-old story in 2005.

It was set to a brand new score by composer BB Cooper and lyricist Barb Jung, along with additional music and orchestrations by talented 16-year-old newcomer Gideon Fineman, and played to sell-out crowds across the country.

Now it is back on the road by popular demand and Kent audiences have the chance to discover the magic.

A talented cast of 10 bring the unforgettable characters to life, with realistic animal movements created by expert Peter Elliot. He is, of course, a master of movement himself, having played monkeys in the



films Greystoke, Gorillas In The Mist and Congo.

The story follows the adventures of young boy Mowgli, who is raised by wolves in the jungle and feels as at home there as any of his furry chums.

But when the menacing tiger Shere Khan announces his intention to kill the boy, Baloo the bear and Bagheera

the panther make a heartbreaking decision. They decide to take Mowgli to the man village in the interests of his safety, but their journey will be fraught with danger, adventure and unexpected encounters.

A trailer of the show can be viewed at [www.birminghamstage.net](http://www.birminghamstage.net).

The Jungle Book began life as a collection of stories written by English author Rudyard Kipling in 1894. Inspired by his early childhood in India, and his return as a teenager to work, the stories were written while he was living in the US.

The first book contained stories about the adventures of Mowgli, along with other fables which used talking animals to make moral points. The Second Jungle Book, published the following year, featured five more stories about Mowgli.

The stories were to inspire one of the best-loved Disney animated films, which was also the last movie produced by Walt Disney himself.

Tickets are priced from £10 to £14 for adults and £8/£7.50 for children. Phone the box office on 01892 530613/532072, or book online at [www.assemblyhalltheatre.co.uk](http://www.assemblyhalltheatre.co.uk).

### THE JUNGLE BOOK

Tuesday to Saturday, September 16-20  
Assembly Hall Theatre, Tunbridge Wells



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### THE WITCHES OF EASTWICK

Tuesday to Saturday, September 9-13  
Marlowe Theatre, Canterbury

MARTI Pellow will be having a devil of a time when *The Witches of Eastwick* rolls into town.

The Wet Wet Wet frontman is feeling hot, hot, hot in the role of Daryl Van Horne, the man who rouses the passion – and magical powers – of three small-town housewives. Based on the 1984 book by John Updike and the hit film of the same name, *The Witches of Eastwick* sees all hell let loose when the devil comes to town.

The 1987 movie starred Jack Nicholson as the horned hunk with Michelle Pfeiffer, Susan Sarandon and Cher as his besotted mistresses.

After seducing each woman in turn, Daryl believes he has the women and the town in his grip, until the three witches resolve to turn the tables.

This is the musical's first UK tour, directed by Nikolai Foster, who also brought Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Aspects of Love* to the Marlowe earlier this year. Poppy Tierney, who played the comely Guilietta in *Aspects*, also returns as one of the witches.

Tickets are priced from £16 to £33.50. Book online at [www.marlowetheatre.com](http://www.marlowetheatre.com) or call the box office on 01227 787787.

### FUNNY SIDE COMEDY CLUB

Wednesday, September 24  
Gulbenkian Theatre, Canterbury

THREE top comedians will be providing the laughs at the Funny Side Comedy Club this month.

Maff Brown has been described as "affable, funny and inventive" by *Time* Out and "one of those comics who doesn't need to try" by fellow funnyman Frank Skinner. He is also the founder of Kingston's Outside The Box Comedy Club, which won an industry award within four months of opening.

Harvey Oliver, also known as Jeff Stevenson, is not only a gifted stand-up but an actor. He appeared in two episodes of *Only Fools and Horses* – playing a policeman in one of the Christmas specials and the comedian at Rodney's stag night – and also starred as Louis in the Alan Parker film *Bugsy Malone*.

The multi-talented Quincy (pictured) is a stand-up, presenter, actor and compere who hosts his own live chat show, has presented on BBC 1Xtra radio and Klymaxx FM and is a regular at renowned comedy venues.

The show starts at 8.30pm and tickets cost £8 in advance or £10 on the door. To book call 01227 769075 or visit [www.gulbenkiantheatre.co.uk](http://www.gulbenkiantheatre.co.uk).



### SHAKESPEARE'S R&J

Wednesday, September 17  
Theatre Royal, Margate

FOUR schoolboys discover the meaning of true love in a daring new take on the Bard's greatest love story.

Set in a strict boys' boarding school in the 50s, Shakespeare's *R&J* sees four heterosexual friends attempt to escape the restric-

tive routine by spending an evening larking about in the school chapel. They begin to read aloud the script for *Romeo and Juliet*, at first treating it as a joke. But as the romantic comedy develops into a heart-wrenching tragedy, both the starcrossed lovers' and the boys' stories unfold.

Shakespeare's own dialogue makes up 90 per cent of the script, with just four

actors bringing the characters to life and evoking the intense passion, pain, joy and grief of the original story. The score features original music by Ron McAllister, as well as sacred hymns and 50s classics, and becomes ever more important as the story progresses.

The performance starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £12/£10. To book call 0845 130 1786 or 01227 787787.

### SWALE LEISURE

#### Duo to bring harmony to the next folk club gig

FAVERSHAM Folk Club will welcome a visit from Dave Ellis and Boo Howard.

The contemporary acoustic duo from London area boast great voices, clean harmonies and hopeful, intelligent songs. See [www.favershamfolkclub.net](http://www.favershamfolkclub.net).

The gig will be held at the Chimney Boy in Preston Street at 8.30pm next Wednesday. Tickets cost £5 for club members and £6 for non-members. To book call Mary on 01795 534368.

#### You can decide if All's Well That Ends Well

THE problems of life are explored, but not necessarily solved, in *All's Well That Ends Well*.

Shakespeare's tale of marriage, old age, virginity and miracle cures was originally classified a comedy, but the intense play seems to defy definition. Audiences will have the chance to make up their own minds when it is staged at the Arden Theatre, Faversham.

The play will run until Saturday, September 13. To book call 01795 531600. See [www.ardentheatre.co.uk](http://www.ardentheatre.co.uk).

#### Photographs celebrate town through the seasons

THERE is still time to enjoy *A Year in the Life of Faversham*, a photographic exhibition documenting 365 days of the town's history.

The free exhibition, organised by French-born resident and amateur photographer Nathalie Banaigs, features contributions from 52 photographers. Between them they took photos every day from July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008.

The show is at the Drill Hall, Preston Street, until Sunday from 10am to 6pm.

#### Voices will be raised in harmony at cathedral

FROM English madrigals to Michael Jackson, the Choral Scholars of Kings College, Cambridge, have an astonishing repertoire.

The group will be singing anything from folk to close harmony arrangements of *Earth, Wind and Fire* hits when they perform at Canterbury Cathedral on Monday.

The concert, which is in aid of the Save Canterbury Cathedral campaign, starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £10. To book call 01227 464764.

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# yourswalemusic

## This could be your chance of a lifetime

BY GARETH ARNOLD

A TOP producer who has worked with the likes of Kylie and James Brown will be showing aspiring students in Kent the ropes as part of a new music consultancy.

Tony Matthews, who has produced several top 40 hits for multi-platinum selling stars, will be leading workshops in writing and recording to mixing and mastering at Ashford Studios as part of MK1, a new community music organisation which launched last week.

The aim of the project is to give young people access to top-quality music education and qualifications, which could help them forge careers in the music industry.

MK1 creative director Malissa Whitehouse said: "MK1 provides an extensive range of activities for young people, intended to help them develop new skills, especially for those who wouldn't normally have access to artistic provisions."

"We feel it is imperative to provide young people with choices and options when faced with making important decisions based on their careers and aspirations."

"We also offer a creative service to schools, colleges, councils and youth clubs with music-based workshops and educational programmes."

The consultancy also hopes to work in other areas of the community, offering the chance for everyone to try their hand at a diverse range of musical and artistic pursuits such as dance, live recording and graffiti art.

In addition to this, a range of experienced tutors will provide mentoring, training, career



**EXPERT:** The youngsters at MK1 will be meeting Tony Matthews, who has produced songs for pop queen Kylie

guidance and event management for short- and long-term art projects in the county.

Malissa said: "MK1 will be involved in every area of the creative industry at the highest level, no matter what the job may entail."

"Our consultants, tutors and service providers are actively working within the creative arts, thereby using the wealth of experience and knowledge gained throughout their

successful careers. They are equipped with the drive and inspiration in supporting and encouraging young people."

To get involved, phone Malissa Whitehouse on 01233 811811, or alternatively you can email malissa@mk1consultancy.org.uk.

MK1 would also like to hear from any of the county's businesses which might be able to offer some sponsorship.

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**HOT:** Emo-rockers Luca are on the beach. Search 'Luca'

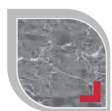


**LOUNGE:** Pete Molinari at the festival. Search 'Molinari'

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# yourswalestyle

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## SWALE SHOPPING

### Book in for your free paperback from store

HIGH street favourites WH Smith is offering a buy-one-get-one free promotion on hundreds of paperback books.

Titles up for grabs include Russell Brand's My Booky Wook, Tony Parsons' My Favourite Wife, Ian Rankin's Exit Music, and Jodi Picoult's Second Glance. The paperbacks start from just £6.99.

For more details pop into WH Smith in Sittingbourne High Street or visit [www.whsmith.co.uk](http://www.whsmith.co.uk).

### Good sports help you save on the essentials

SPORTS giant JJB is offering a range of summer savings across their back-to-school essentials.

The nationwide retailer, which has a store in Hempstead Valley Shopping Centre and Chatham High Street, boasts a wide variety of children's clothing, shoes, bags and sports goods at bargain prices. Backpacks start from £9.99, while kids' shoes are as low as £14.99.

For more information pop into the store or visit [www.jjbsports.com](http://www.jjbsports.com).

### Dancing judge will be strictly signing books

STRICTLY Come Dancing judge Len Goodman will be signing copies of his new autobiography at Bluewater next week.

The former British Champion, who now lives in Dartford, had a tough upbringing in London's East End and found fame late in life as the head judge on the successful BBC show. His book, Better Late Than Never, is published by Ebury tomorrow and is priced at £18.99.

Fans can meet him at Waterstone's from 6pm on Wednesday, September 10. Call the store on 01322 624831.

### Make sure your pet still has a healthy bite

SEPTEMBER is the British Dental Association's Oral Health Month, but the focus is not just on human teeth.

Bad breath can be a sign your pet has oral health problems, but Molar believes its ProDen PlaqueOff Animal product can help. Made from a special seaweed, the product comes in granulated form and is easy to add to food. The company claims it has lots of oral health benefits and contains vitamins and minerals.

Priced from £9.99 for 60g, it is available across Kent, see [www.molarltd.co.uk](http://www.molarltd.co.uk).

### Join in the celebration with a diamond shine

ELNETT is celebrating 50 years of preventing bad hair days by releasing the new Diamond Hold and Shine hairspray.

Get ready for the onset of autumn winds by investing in a strong hold and smooth 'diamond shine' finish that brushes out at a stroke.

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# yourswaletimeout

## YOUR TV REVIEW

-  **STRICTLY COME DANCING**  
BBC One, Saturday (from Sept 30)
-  **THE X FACTOR**  
ITV1, 7pm Saturday

■ BY TOM BETTS

THE term 'monumentally bad' wouldn't even go half-way to cover this year's Big Brother, so let's be glad that it's finally over.

The desperadoes have been released and some respite is upon us, but, before we know it, I'm a Celebrity... will be back and we'll all want to top ourselves again.

Before all that starts, though, for a moment let us enjoy the battle of Saturday nights.

It's the clash of the titans, an irresistible force meeting the immovable object.

Two prime-time shows are heading for a dust-up and will be slapping each other around the entertainment face in the weeks to come.

In the BBC corner is Strictly Come Dancing and its cast of celebrity contestants, while, in the ITV corner is The X Factor, with its celebrity judges, auditioning weirdos and the very pointless Dannii Minogue.

Not so long ago, there would be only one logical choice: The X Factor's audition stages were a joy to watch as humiliation was piled high upon many poor souls deluded enough to think they had what it takes to bag a nailed-on Christmas number one.

However, it is now the dancing rival that holds more appeal for many.

In part it is because the X Factor's joke has worn very thin, whereas dancing also requires skill and hard work, rather than just turning up and belting out a Robbie Williams cover.



**POPULAR:** Strictly Come Dancing is beating The X Factor, where the joke has worn thin

In SCD, the Beeb has a big winner on its hands and has flogged the format to the rest of the world in the same way Simon Cowell did with his creation.

Not bad for an idea that seemed to smack of desperation when it was first launched in 2004.

I must admit I thought this was the worst idea I'd ever heard when the show tangoed on to our screens, but I was wrong – it's genuinely entertaining stuff.

Ratings are huge and Bruce Forsyth is in his element, finding a deserved second wind to his career.

This year should be a good series. A certain comedy value is sure to come from former news man John Sergeant, while, for the fellas, Rachel Stevens, Lisa Snowdon and The One Show's current beau, Christine Blakely, will all be giving us a twirl, which Bruce will surely approve of.

Strictly Come Dancing, in the words of the great man himself on a Saturday night: "You're my favourite!"

## YOUR WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

BY RUSSELL GRANT



### AQUARIUS (Jan 21-Feb 19)

AN interest in a foreign culture could prompt you to take a trip overseas. Your love life will get a boost as a result. If you're already in a relationship, your bond will grow closer. Being away from the trappings of home will allow you to focus on your partner's needs like never before.

- To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aquarius** 09067-531762



### TAURUS (Apr 21-May 21)

WORK becomes much more pleasant, thanks to a thoughtful female colleague. This woman knows just what to do and say to resolve conflicts. You may be inspired to decorate your office. Being surrounded by lush, green plants helps you to think outside of the box.

- To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Taurus** 09067-531753



### LEO (Jul 24-Aug 23)

VISITING a friend or relative could prove a welcome change of pace. A change of scenery will give you a fresh perspective. You're starting to see you have more choices than you thought. This liberating realisation will cause you to make a startling choice.

- To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Leo** 09067-531756



### SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22)

SPENDING more time on private pursuits is essential. You're emerging from a social period that has left you drained. Take a few moments to go on solitary walks, enjoy a quiet cup of tea, or read for pleasure. Stop telling yourself such behaviour is selfish.

- To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Scorpio** 09067-531759



### PISCES (Feb 20-Mar 20)

YOUR sex appeal reaches its peak for the year; take advantage of it. Luring a love interest into your web will be an enjoyable task. If you're in a relationship, you could be granted favours. Signing a contract or entering a partnership will help you get the acclaim you desire.

- To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Pisces** 09067-531763



### GEMINI (May 22-Jun 22)

AT last, you're able to abandon yourself to fun. Be sure to schedule a vacation in the next few weeks. If you're single, you could meet someone special on this trip. Keep your eyes open for a witty sophisticate with impeccable fashion. Take charge of a troubling household concern.

- To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Gemini** 09067-531754



### VIRGO (Aug 24-Sep 23)

BUSINESS ventures related to art, music, and entertainment are favoured. You have a knack for delivering what the public wants. Go ahead and charge a higher price than you intended. You'd be surprised at how much people would pay for a little enjoyment.

- To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Virgo** 09067-531757



### SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21)

FRIENDS are an invaluable source of support. They'll help you make sense of a stressful work situation that has you flummoxed. Being able to laugh at yourself in the midst of a crisis will be your saving grace. Be ready to let go of your dignity for the sake of the team.

- To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Sagittarius** 09067-531760



### ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 20)

LOVE could be your primary focus. Don't be afraid to let a loved one put your needs ahead of theirs. In the past, you were willing to shield this person from ugly realities. Now it's your turn to experience the same sort of kindness. Accept this gift with an open and grateful heart.

- To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aries** 09067-531752



### CANCER (Jun 23-Jul 23)

A TROUBLED family relationship could undergo healing. A female relative who was once critical of your lifestyle is starting to come to terms with it. You're not sure how long her compassion will last, but it's a relief. Helping a neighbour will set off a pleasant chain of events.

- To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Cancer** 09067-531755



### LIBRA (Sep 24-Oct 23)

TAKE the initiative in a romantic relationship. Generally, you like to be the one who is pursued. Learning to assert yourself will bring rewards. Stop telling yourself you do not deserve love and happiness. A thoughtful relative could remind you of your tremendous gifts.

- To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Libra** 09067-531758



### CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 20)

YOU'RE making a name for yourself in the public sphere. All of the sudden, everyone wants your advice and help. This is a wonderful time to make inroads to your desired industry. If you already love your job, you could take this opportunity to start a side business.

- To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Capricorn** 09067-531761

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## CROSSWORD & SUDOKU

No51

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EASY

7	6	9	5			2
	8	7		1	6	4
		9		6		8
			8	9		
1	3	6		7	9	8
		1	5			
6	1	5		8	3	
9		3	1		8	6

MEDIUM

		7						
		8	2	9				4
							5	
6	9			2			8	6
2	3		7				2	1
	7				6	1	4	
5			3		9			
				1				

HARD

		2		4				6
					2			3
	4		6			8	2	
3	9							
6		5		7		1		
						7	3	
5	4			9		8		
1		3						
3			5		4			

### CRYPTIC CLUES

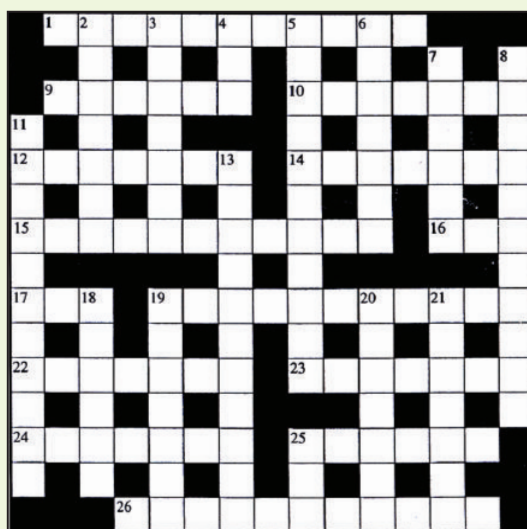
#### ACROSS

- 1 Modern communication from the pulpit? (4,7)
- 9 Large lady's crime? (6)
- 10 The German travelled on river (7)
- 12 Plenty, but giving no thanks, getting only small number (3,1,3)
- 14 Runner to leap over ramp (3-4)
- 15 Quite satisfied with what spring has to offer (4,7)
- 16 Disbelieve part. This part? (3)
- 17 Frequently appeared out-of-town (3)
- 19 Did a plaited design that was in ruins (11)
- 22 Agreement coming from orchestra (7)
- 23 Disclaim responsibility was void surprisingly (7)
- 24 Falls again back with Rear Admiral (7)
- 25 Before end of day at monastery (6)
- 26 A new racing round garden vessel (8-3)

#### DOWN

- 2 It's to do with an order modifying dialect (7)
- 3 Trade that's constantly on the increase (7)
- 4 See Fenland community (3)
- 5 Evaded in a crabby way? (11)
- 6 Welshman from Tangier (7)
- 7 Some of those quelling development (6)
- 8 Stayed at lower level but did not continue to be blue (7,4)
- 11 Completely ignorant to be aware of the absence of anything! (4-7)
- 13 Newly sealed variety of cheese (11)
- 18 Jack's double had sauce (6)
- 19 Miniature scene from play ten included (7)
- 20 Spirited flying (7)
- 21 Reportedly in a Greek guesthouse (7)
- 25 Greek character's graphic piece (3)

### SCRIBBLE HERE



### QUICK CLUES

#### ACROSS

- 1 Easily visible (11)
- 9 Thickset (6)
- 10 Former capital of Uganda (7)
- 12 Practicality (7)
- 14 Pertain (anag.) (7)
- 15 In all seriousness (6,5)
- 16 Study (3)
- 17 Immediately (3)
- 19 Wasting (11)
- 22 Larger than normal (7)
- 23 Obedient (7)
- 24 Outlive (7)
- 25 \_\_\_ de corps (6)
- 26 Written declaration (11)

#### DOWN

- 2 Remote parts of Australia (7)
- 3 A drawing in (7)
- 4 Glacial (3)
- 5 Not made clear (11)
- 6 Uncoil (7)
- 7 Calmed down (6)
- 8 Large seabird (7-4)
- 11 Destructive computer program (6,5)
- 13 Size (11)
- 18 Wet (6)
- 19 Self-killing (7)
- 20 In an abnormal position (7)
- 21 Impose pain (7)
- 25 Sprite (3)

## LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

### SUDOKU SOLUTIONS No50

EASY

6	4	5	7	3	9	1	8	2
7	1	9	5	2	8	4	3	6
8	2	3	1	6	4	5	9	7
9	7	1	4	5	6	8	2	3
4	8	2	9	7	3	6	1	5
5	3	6	2	8	1	7	4	9
2	9	8	6	4	7	3	5	1
1	6	4	3	9	5	2	7	8
3	5	7	8	1	2	9	6	4

MEDIUM

5	7	8	3	9	4	1	2	6
3	9	4	6	2	1	7	5	8
1	2	6	7	5	8	9	4	3
2	8	7	9	4	6	3	1	5
9	4	3	5	1	2	8	6	7
6	5	1	8	3	7	2	9	4
8	1	2	4	6	3	5	7	9
7	6	5	2	8	9	4	3	1
4	3	9	1	7	5	6	8	2

HARD

4	5	9	6	8	2	7	1	3
2	1	3	9	5	7	4	6	8
6	7	8	1	3	4	5	9	2
3	9	5	8	4	1	2	7	6
1	4	7	5	2	6	3	8	9
8	6	2	3	7	9	1	4	5
9	2	4	7	6	3	8	5	1
5	3	6	4	1	8	9	2	7
7	8	1	2	9	5	6	3	4

### CRYPTIC SOLUTION No51

ACROSS: 1 Pickpocket 6 Scab 9 Probe 10 Numb 11 Esne 13 Last but not least 14 Rightful 16 Ezema 18 Hobart 19 Molasses 22 Lead a merry dance 24 Ante 25 Ward 26 Lethe 27 Lark 28 Quarter-day. DOWN: 1 Popular 2 Cross 3 Presbyterian 4 Construe 5 Exmoot 7 Castanets 8 Beef-tea 12 Black-and-blue 15 Gibraltar 17 Joyrider 18 Holdall 20 Scenery 21 Dejavu 23 Noted.

### QUICK SOLUTION No52

25 Elf  
18 Watery 19 Suicide 20 Ecotop 22 Inflict  
11 Herring-quill 11 Trojan horse 13 Measurement  
10 Unexplained 6 Unhired 7 Abated 8  
Certificate 2 Outback 3 Suction 4  
Outsize 23 Outfit 24 Survival 25 Sprint 26  
apart 16 Den 17 Now 19 Squandering 22  
Entitled 12 Realism 14 Painter 15 Joking  
10 Stocky 10

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# yourswalegetaways



## When only the best is good enough

BY KATE WHITING

IN Ocracoke harbour, the pelicans perch on wooden mooring posts in the setting sun, as though to welcome the fishing boats back after a long day out at sea.

And they couldn't have found a better – or more secluded – place to rest.

Ocracoke, one of the narrow sandbar islands that runs down the coast of North Carolina, was for years one of America's best-kept secrets. In 2007, however, it was thrown into the global spotlight when its virgin beach beat more than 650 sandy havens to be named the best in the United States.

It was the first time a beach outside of the more popular sunspots Hawaii and Florida had been chosen, and sitting on the warm white sand I could easily see why.

Ocracoke island boasts 15 miles of uninterrupted, undeveloped, pristine beach, with gently sloping sand-dunes and spectacular views stretching out over the Atlantic. There are none of the oversized chain hotels, beach bars, or banana boats of built-up resorts. Ocracoke defines understatement and simplicity.

US beach expert Stephen Leatherman (fondly known as Dr Beach) selected Ocracoke Lifeguarded Beach on the basis of 50 criteria, ranging from sand quality and colour, to wave size and even traffic.

There certainly aren't many cars in Ocracoke, mainly because the island has only



**WATER BABY:** Ocracoke is a beautiful island, boasting a 15-mile long beach, 26 miles off the coast of North Carolina

700 residents and because its location, 26 miles from the mainland, means many visitors fly into this unspoilt paradise instead of struggling with the three-hour car ferry. But the journey is well worth it for those seeking a real American treasure.

Besides its beach, the island, and the surrounding Outer Banks boast some of the most extraordinary history, set in a carefully preserved landscape.

One exciting way to explore is by kayak. Ride The Wind surf shop, in the centre of Ocracoke's snug historic town, offers guided eco tours. The kayak tour, led by friendly Ocracoker Bob Chestnut, took us away from the ocean and up some of the island's natural

inlets too, where we found oysters, hermit crabs, turtles and even a sea snake darting among the reedbeds.

To give ourselves some geographical perspective, we headed to the historic town of Beaufort on the mainland, which lies at the heart of North Carolina's Crystal Coast.

From Beaufort, it's easy to take day trips to other sandbar islands, which make up the Outer Banks, and one of the most spectacular is Cape Lookout. Its lighthouse, with its large black and white diamond pattern, is an icon.

And as the sun glinted off the Atlantic at the end of another beautiful day on the Outer Banks, it was easy to see why North Carolina is so justifiably proud of its unique coastline.

### FACT FILE: CAROLINA

Time difference	UK minus 5 hours
Capital	Raleigh
Population	8,856,505
Languages	English
Climate	Maritime temperate
Religion	Christian
Currency	£1 approx 1.8 US dollars

#### Travel details

- Kate Whiting flew from Heathrow to Raleigh Durham as a guest of American Airlines. Package from £575 including seven nights' car hire with complimentary sat nav bookable through Bon Voyage: 0800 3163012/[www.bon-voyage.co.uk](http://www.bon-voyage.co.uk).
- Same package from Gatwick from £559.
- Accommodation can be arranged at Beaufort Inn (001 252 7282600/[www.beaufort-inn.com](http://www.beaufort-inn.com)); Captain's Landing (001 252 928 1999/[www.the-captainslanding.com](http://www.the-captainslanding.com)); and The Cove B&B (001 252 9284192).
- Destination information is available from North Carolina Division of Tourism: 0207 367937/[www.northcarolinatravel.co.uk](http://www.northcarolinatravel.co.uk)



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### BABYLON A.D. (12A)



Imagine an environmentally-ravaged world teetering on the brink of catastrophe with mankind's fate resting on the hulking shoulders of action star Vin Diesel. As mercenary Thorop, he escorts a young woman from her Neolite convent in Mongolia to New York. Their journey includes an explosion at a train station and a scramble to board a submarine before it descends beneath the ice.

### THE STRANGERS (15)



A battle of wits between a young couple and three masked strangers who invade their home in the dead of night, this is a riveting edge-of-seat thriller. An impressive first effort from director Bryan Bertino, who never identifies the attackers enacting their despicable plan almost without exchanging a single word, except for a chilling final remark.

### HELLBOY II: THE GOLDEN ARMY (12A)



The sequel to Guillermo del Toro's 2004 fantasy is every bit as fast and furious as its predecessor, melding dazzling production design with wry humour and explosive action sequences. Here del Toro is given free rein to let his imagination run amok, concocting a dark and bloody fairy-tale full of trolls, goblins and a 9ft Angel Of Death. Hellboy II: The Golden Army is a triumph of design.

# Stepping up for laughs

BY KATE WHITING

WHEN it comes to showing the funny side of serious situations, you can always rely on Hollywood's Frat Pack – the band of comic brothers led by the likes of Ben Stiller and Will Ferrell.

From Ben's pathetic stalker in There's Something About Mary, to Steve Carrell's 40-Year-Old Virgin and last year's Knocked Up – a tale of accidental pregnancy written, directed and produced by new golden boy Judd Apatow – the pack, who love to pop up in each others' films, have poked fun at most things.

Now the 'plight' of grown-up children still living at home has been given the comedy treatment in Will Ferrell and John C Reilly's collaboration, Step Brothers.

Empty-nesters are becoming a thing of the past in the UK as more and more children choose to stay with their parents rent-free – as many as one in ten, according to research by Mintel.

In Step Brothers, produced by – wait for it – Judd Apatow, the two central characters, 40-somethings Dale (John) and Brennan (Will), not only stay at home but neither of them work and they have managed to remain in a perpetual state of adolescence.

"They never outgrow their adolescent ideas about what's cool, how they'd spend their time when they grew up, what they found entertaining," says Will, 41.

"It was a lot of fun to explore that, thinking 'What if you actually became at 40 the guy you thought you'd be when you were 13?'"

Cue juvenile T-shirts, prized drum sets, Chewbacca masks and



**BROTHERS IN ARMS:** Will Ferrell and John C Reilly finally face the idea of growing up

endless TV dinners for Dale and Brennan as John and Will clearly revel in their roles.

"Dale is an extreme case of arrested development," says John, 43, with a smile. "His dad's a doctor, so he's never really had to work for anything. He's just into the things that he likes and nothing else interests him at all. He likes drums, sling-shots, karate and fireworks."

"He's a guy who already feels he's got the greatest life ever and he doesn't have to really work."

The film follows two single parents – Brennan's mum Nancy (Mary Steenburgen) and Dale's

doctor dad Robert (Richard Jenkins) – who meet, fall in love, marry and then make the life-altering decision to live together.

Sparks fly when the two grown men are forced to share Dale's room and then Brennan makes the huge mistake of touching Dale's drum kit, which results in a hilarious childish fight, with them rolling around in the garden.

When the pressure of looking after two layabouts drives their parents apart, the boys finally resolve to get off the sofa and try to set up their own entertainment company, but will they be able to reunite Nancy and Robert?

Step Brothers came about two years ago after Will and John worked together with writer-director Adam McKay on motor-racing flick Talladega Nights: The Battle Of Ricky Bobby. It was such good fun that as soon as filming wrapped they started thinking about their next project.

"We sat down, had dinner and threw around all these ideas," Will remembers.

Once the trio had come up with the characters, old friends Will and Adam sat down to write the screenplay together.

Will remembers.

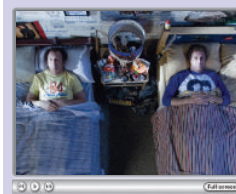
Once the trio had come up with the characters, old friends Will and Adam sat down to write the screenplay together.



**STEP BROTHERS**  
Certificate 15

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## Jeremy Hardy

Saturday 13 September  
7.45pm



Jeremy is now an essential member of The News Quiz and can be heard regularly as a guest on I'm Sorry I Haven't a Clue and Just a Minute.

**Tickets £15**

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## PROPERTY NEWS

### Swap the headache of selling for a new home

PART exchange can be a useful way to move and escape the hassle of selling.

Houses are selling but buyers must be sensible with the price. But new builders, who are under huge pressure to sell, have some spectacular deals on offer for existing owners.

Redrow is one of several builders who will buy a customer's current house (subject to criteria) and effectively 'swap' it for a new home; meaning a guaranteed, quick and easy sale, minus the worry of being stuck in a housing chain that's going nowhere or might even collapse.

Beryl Williams, of Redrow Homes, says: "According to the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS), the number of housing transactions hit an all-time low in June, but why worry about selling your existing home when Redrow can do it for you?"

"Some people are reluctant to put their existing property on the market in the first place because they think they won't find a buyer."

Part exchange also removes the threat of being 'gazundered' – a trend that hasn't really surfaced since the 90s but is now increasing – where a buyer substantially lowers their offer just days before the exchange and the seller must either accept the lower figure, or reject it and start the entire process all over again.

### Students are a good bet for making profit

KENT'S university centres are a better investment bet for buy-to-let landlords, according to a new poll.

As the property market has slowed, rental properties have become even more important, with student accommodation remaining a strong performer.

Rental yields from student accommodation in university towns and cities should continue to outstrip those achieved from buy-to-let properties without, according to industry research by headlineproperty.co.uk website.

They carried out the survey after estimates emerged which suggested that landlords offering student accommodation in university towns often benefit from annual rental yields which are one or two percentage points (sometimes more) higher.

The main reason for this is the fact that, as the numbers of those making the move into higher education continues to rise, so demand for student accommodation itself could only go one way in the years ahead.

# Why not just stay put?

## Moving may not be your best option

MAKING the most of your existing home is an increasingly popular option as the housing market slows to a crawl.

Extending or remodelling your home can give you the extra space and will increase its value when the market picks up again.

But before you start, the organisers of The London Homebuilding & Renovating Show, at ExCeL London from September 19 to 21, have come up with some great pointers that may save you time ... and money.

### Permitted development

If your home has never been extended you could add 15 per cent to the volume of the house without needing permission. Visit [www.planningportal.gov.uk](http://www.planningportal.gov.uk) and take advantage of their online volume calculator.

### Know the building regulations

Even if you don't need planning permission, you may need building regulations approval. If you are converting your loft, moving a bath or toilet, installing a green heating system, a flue or altering window openings, you will need to apply for approval.

### Think through your loft conversion

To comply with building regulations to get an extra bedroom, the floor may need strengthening and the roof will need at least 150mm of insulation, which will lower the ceiling. Don't forget that accessing a habitable loft conversion requires a permanent staircase and this will need landing space.

### Beware of removing trees

It is a criminal offence to cut down a tree which is protected by a Tree Preservation Order (TPO). Even if an extension doesn't require planning permission, you cannot alter or even prune a tree that has a TPO on it without permission.

### The right to light

When you apply for planning permission remember your neighbours might object if you cut sunlight to their home. This is more relevant to town centre homes.

### Conservation areas have different rules

If your home is in a conservation area, or is a listed building, things are not so simple. Take the time to speak with your local council's planning department before you start anything. It's a criminal offence to alter a listed building.



IMPROVE: An extension and a lick of paint could have you feeling like you're in a new home without having to move

### Know the Party Wall Act

Any work you intend to carry out that is within three metres of your boundary wall will mean legally you must contact your neighbour. If you are digging a foundation, then anything under six metres from the wall means they must be consulted.

### Do your homework

Do your research before you start to avoid any horrible surprises. Contact your local

planning office or visit the government website [www.planningportal.gov.uk/buildingwork](http://www.planningportal.gov.uk/buildingwork).

The London Homebuilding & Renovating Show has local authority planning experts on the Planning Portal stand (1037), as well as architects in the Ask the Architects Zone.

The show also features more than 200 exhibitors and 72 free seminar and master-class sessions over the four days. Tickets are £8 in advance or £12 on the door (children under 16 go free). See [www.homebuilding-show.co.uk](http://www.homebuilding-show.co.uk) or call 0871 945 4547.

# THIS MIGHT JUST BE THE IDEAL HOME FOR COMMUTERS – TAKE A LOOK AROUND FOR YOURSELF @propertyforkent.co.uk





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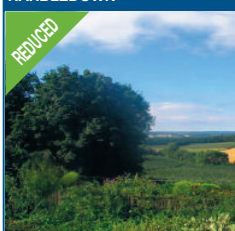
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STURRY

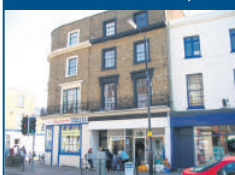
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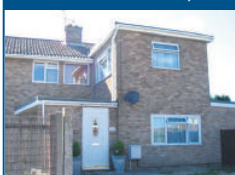
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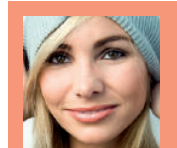
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## WOMEN'S SPOTLIGHT

**ANOTHER GLASS?**  
29yr old female, long blonde hair, blue eyes, 5'10, slim, attractive, GSOH, seeks nice gentleman for companionship and happy times. Box 442121

**IF YOU CAN REACH, TAKE ME OFF THE SHELF!**  
Pettie, dark-haired, blue-eyed female, 30, fun and friendly, bright and bubbly. Bored of being single, looking for a lovely man to take me out! Box 895349

**WE COULD MAKE IT HAPPEN**  
Relaxed, reformed, 32yr old, 5'4, enjoys theatre, meals and cosy nights in, with a male, 30-42, for a happy relationship. Box 442617

**SOULMATE WANTED**  
32yr old teacher, 5'7, green eyes, auburn hair, enjoys theatre, cinema and music, seeking for a genuine a guy to share everything with. Box 443067

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### THE NURSE WILL SEE YOU NOW

Laid-back yet outgoing nurse, 33, 5'12, faithful, happy, love swimming, the gym, seeking single down-to-earth male, 35-50, for hopeful relationship. Box 442916

**THE TRUTH ABOUT RUTH**  
I'm Ruth, hard-working, kind, caring woman, 32, brown hair/eyes, nice smile, looking to meet/have a guy, so call me and let's see how it goes. Box 301072

**LUV-LOVING FEMALE**  
Attractive, 31, 5'4", size 12, dark hair with blonde highlights, tactile, wlm intelligent, professional, attractive guy, for a happy relationship. Tunbridge Wells. Box 308734

**MISS JULIE**  
Curvy brunette, 33, 5'4, single mum, wlm special man, divorced or separated, to share the nice things in life with. Box 443255

**YOU WON'T REGRET IT**  
Curvy brunette, 5'8, 4, hazel eyes, single mum, looking for that special passionate and caring man to share good times with. Box 443255

**ALONG THE SHORE**  
Brunette female, 38yrs old, single mum, enjoys socialising, DIY, romantic moments and family activities, WLTm a male with similar interests for friendship. Box 442393

**HISTORIC MEETING?**  
Mum of three, 38, long mousey hair, blue eyes, interested in historical places, music, eating out, seeks kind, caring, genuine male 36-49, non-smoker, for LTR. Box 440693

**ROMANCE IS ALIVE**  
Divorced, lively mum, 35, GSOH, I enjoy time with my family and friends, cinema, good food, beach walks, seeks male for honesty, love and romance. Box 813930

**SING WHEN YOU'RE WINNING**  
Hiya, I'm 36, WLTm any solvent men for a serious relationship. I like going out and having a good laugh, pubs, karaoke... Box 888159

**HERE WE GO**  
Black haired brown haired female, 37, recently separated, seeking genuine guy for hopeful happiness - no time wasters! Box 908053

**MEND A BROKEN HEART**  
Single mum, 37, fun-loving, been hurt in past, looking for nice, genuine guy for hopeful happiness - no time wasters! Box 428666

**PRINCESS FIONA**  
Fun-loving single mum, 37, 5'8, loves going out, staying in and having fun, WLTm a male to be my knight in shining armour. Box 443290

**SEIZE THE DAY**  
Loving female, 36, 5'4, brown hair, green eyes, likes socialising, staying in, seeks genuine male for friendship and more. Box 442617

**BLONDE AMBITION**  
Bubbly, cuddly, blonde single mum, 38, 5'6", likes cars, reading, pubs, cosy nights in, having a laugh, looking for that right male for LTR. Box 905614

**A NICE BOTTLE OF WINE**  
Lovely, glossy brunette, 39yr old, petite, bubbly and loving, enjoys theatre, music and eating out, with a professional, loving and tactile male for relationship. Box 442551

## ATTRACTION & SATISFACTION

Hard-working independent female, 41, dark brown hair, brown eyes, GSOH, enjoys cinema, eating out, seeking similar male with no issues for friendship first, then hopefully more. Box 442205

**CAN YOU BE MY KNIGHT IN SHINING ARMOUR?**  
Young looking 40yr old, 5'7, green eyes, loves cinema, theatre, meals, cosy nights in, music, DVDs, seeking honest, loyal, good-looking male 35-45 with similar interests. Box 442999

**HAPPY GO LUCKY**  
Sincere, happy woman, with GSOH. I'm 5'6, with short brown hair, brown eyes, I have lots of interests and WLTm similar guy. Box 895019

**ON A PLATE**  
Caring, honest 46yr old female, 5'2", eyes of blue, redhead, Likes online theatre, walking, WLTm male for fun and friendship. Box 895928

**TOGETHER, FOREVER?**  
Caring person with GSOH, 48, would like to share my life with someone nice, who enjoys romantic walks, meals and wants to find love. Box 889783

**HOPE AND LOVE FOREVER**  
Professional female, 43, brunette, loves the outdoors, good food, good wine, seeking similar as myself for loving relationship. Box 443198

**ALL THAT I NEED**  
Young-looking, slim, attractive female, 48, fun-loving & outgoing, N/S, GSOH, love music, holidays, going out & staying in, seeks similar man, 42-50, Aylesford. Box 428593

**HOPE YOU FIT THE BILL...**  
Non-smoking Mum with GSOH, 50, 5'13, blue eyes, medium-large build, loves music, gym, going out, travel, seeking down-to-earth, sincere guy. Box 442821

**DIG DEEPER**  
Genuine, friendly female, 49, likes walks, gardening, nights in/out, seeking genuine, friendly male, 45-55. Dover Box 435441

**LAUGHTER, THE BEST MEDICINE**  
Help me write my stand-up comedy routine! I'm 49, I'd just need to make me laugh out loud and understand observational comedy to make the grade. Box 892640

**JUST IMAGINE**  
Pettie, brunette, bubbly, friendly, easygoing single mum, 49, enjoys cinema, eating out, socialising, most things. WLTm genuine male, to see where life takes us. Box 893562

**READ ALL ABOUT IT**  
Pettie, sincere woman, 44, wavy blonde hair, blue eyes, size 10, loves beach walks, animals, DIY, swimming, travelling, wlm N/S man to share things with. Box 429662

**WHITESTABLE WUNDERLAND**  
Hi, I'm Vieve, 50, separated, blonde hair/eyes, size 12, 5'2", likes cinema, meals and drinks out, reading, walks, looking for male, 40-60, for relationship. Box 420160

**PUTTER IN YOUR HANDS!**  
Sporty female, 50, Hastings-based, 5'8", blonde/blue, enjoys golf, walking, socialising, eating in/out, WLTm fun-loving, kind, sporty male, 48-60, 5'10", to share life. Box 163367

**COMPANIONSHIP, LAUGHTER, HOPEFULLY MORE**  
Curvy & cuddly, outgoing, friendly, honest female, 53, 5'7, larger build, fair hair, likes socialising, country walks, theatre, cinema, music, swimming, WLTm similar loving male. Box 443642

**ALL THIS AND MORE**  
Attractive female, 45, slim-medium build, 5'11, big brown eyes, brown hair, caring, loving, honest, seeking LTR with an honest, caring male to enjoy life with. Box 439367

**YOUNG-AT-HEART**  
Attractive 38yr old female, dark brown hair, blue eyes, curvy, physique, likes days out, music, concerts, cinema, walking, cycling, seeks loving, fun male, for friendship/relationship. Box 901893

**WE ARE FAMILY**  
Attractive, blonde, kind, caring, genuine, 39, 5'10, WLTm very good-looking, fit gentleman, loyal, caring, honest, to enjoy walks, music, dancing, cooking, family life and more with. Box 374656

**JUST CALL MY NAME**  
39yr old female, enjoys going out, trying new things, seeking similar male for friendship. Box 443823

**ON MANDY**  
Mandy, 36, lovely brunette, petite & slim, very tactile & bubbly, professional mum, wlm honest, romantic N/S man. Box 432639

**ANIMAL LOVER?**  
Nurse, 37yrs, 2 kids, 5'8, blonde hair, blue eyes, likes the gym, cooking, swimming, salsa dancing, looking for a kind, caring, loyal male Box 431557

**TOO MUCH TO ASK?**  
Genuine female, 41, 5'3", brunette, brown eyes, medium build, enjoys meals out, music, seeks male, 38-42, for romance. Box 155275

**HERE HORSE!**  
Outgoing girl, 42, dark hair, brown eyes, likes swimming, walking, cycling, riding horses, outdoor sports, seeking a similar male for love. Box 443591

## IT'S WHAT YOU MAKE OF IT!

44yr old female, blonde hair, 5'15, slim, easygoing, enjoy many things in life, looking for someone similar out there to enjoy life with! Box 436810

**HAPPY GO LUCKY**  
Sincere, happy woman, with GSOH. I'm 5'6, with short brown hair, brown eyes, I have lots of interests and WLTm similar guy. Box 895019

**ON A PLATE**  
Caring, honest 46yr old female, 5'2", eyes of blue, redhead, Likes online theatre, walking, WLTm male for fun and friendship. Box 895928

**TOGETHER, FOREVER?**  
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**READ ALL ABOUT IT**  
Pettie, sincere woman, 44, wavy blonde hair, blue eyes, size 10, loves beach walks, animals, DIY, swimming, travelling, wlm N/S man to share things with. Box 429662

**WHITESTABLE WUNDERLAND**  
Hi, I'm Vieve, 50, separated, blonde hair/eyes, size 12, 5'2", likes cinema, meals and drinks out, reading, walks, looking for male, 40-60, for relationship. Box 420160

**PUTTER IN YOUR HANDS!**  
Sporty female, 50, Hastings-based, 5'8", blonde/blue, enjoys golf, walking, socialising, eating in/out, WLTm fun-loving, kind, sporty male, 48-60, 5'10", to share life. Box 163367

**COMPANIONSHIP, LAUGHTER, HOPEFULLY MORE**  
Curvy & cuddly, outgoing, friendly, honest female, 53, 5'7, larger build, fair hair, likes socialising, country walks, theatre, cinema, music, swimming, WLTm similar loving male. Box 443642

**ALL THIS AND MORE**  
Attractive female, 45, slim-medium build, 5'11, big brown eyes, brown hair, caring, loving, honest, seeking LTR with an honest, caring male to enjoy life with. Box 439367

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Attractive 38yr old female, dark brown hair, blue eyes, curvy, physique, likes days out, music, concerts, cinema, walking, cycling, seeks loving, fun male, for friendship/relationship. Box 901893

**WE ARE FAMILY**  
Attractive, blonde, kind, caring, genuine, 39, 5'10, WLTm very good-looking, fit gentleman, loyal, caring, honest, to enjoy walks, music, dancing, cooking, family life and more with. Box 374656

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39yr old female, enjoys going out, trying new things, seeking similar male for friendship. Box 443823

**ON MANDY**  
Mandy, 36, lovely brunette, petite & slim, very tactile & bubbly, professional mum, wlm honest, romantic N/S man. Box 432639

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**HERE HORSE!**  
Outgoing girl, 42, dark hair, brown eyes, likes swimming, walking, cycling, riding horses, outdoor sports, seeking a similar male for love. Box 443591

**SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCE**  
Kind, caring, spiritual lady, 39, 5'4", average build, hazel puppy-dog eyes, brown hair, looking for genuine, caring, similar male for friendship first. Box 899694

## SOPHISTICATED SUE

Sue, 56yr old, 5'4, green eyes, petite, loves cooking, holidays, reading and swimming, with a tall professional male, similar age, for friendship and romance. Box 443309

**LOVE FEELS ALRIGHT**  
Firtatious, energetic female, 57, 5'13, blonde hair, curvy, loves dancing, walking, seaside, films, fun, life! Seeking special male to spoil, pamper and enjoy laughter with. Box 443672

**A HEALTHY RELATIONSHIP**  
Semi-retired nurse, 58, likes movies, walking, music, WLTm male, 58-62, kind, caring, for companionship and more. Box 443795

**MAKE ME PURR**  
Happy-go-lucky lady with nice smile, 62, 5'13, medium build, brown hair/eyes, enjoys dancing, walking, eating in/out, animals, seeking loving man for friendship/long term relationship. Box 443711

**THE GOLDEN YEARS**  
Blonde female 62yr old, divorced, slim, enjoys walks and trips to the seaside, with a male, 59-64, for a loving companionship. Kent area only please. Box 442443

**NEW!**  
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Add a photo of yourself

Register your number with us & send by SMS to 07746 738 788. Enter P2P as subject.

MMS - standard network charges apply.

**MAKE ME LAUGH, MAKE ME YOURS**  
Attractive, gregarious, fun-loving non-smoker, 63, slim, 5'4, very active, loves walks, the countryside, POI, animals, seeking similar male, caring, tactile, GSOH, to be my soulmate. Box 443644

**A ROSE BY ANY OTHER NAME...**  
Widow, early 60s, 5'4, dark hair/eyes, medium build, N/S, loving, caring, no-nonsense, enjoys travelling, socialising, eating in/out, seeking similar male to enjoy life with. Rye. Box 441177

**GENUINE LOVER & FRIEND**  
Genuine lady, 65yr old, 5'4, enjoys walking, gardening and eating out, lots of life to give, with a sincere gentleman for a LTR. Box 442065

**TO MAKE EACH OTHER HAPPY**  
Widow, 65, 5'3, fair hair, slim-medium build, enjoys dancing, sports, badminton, table-tennis, walking, theatre, eating out, WLTm similar male, honest, caring, to enjoy life with. Box 443671

**CUTE SMILE**  
Tracey, 23, 5'12, green eyes, slim, laid-back, enjoys meals out, pubs and clubs, WLTm a similar female for a relationship. Box 443248

**CANDLELIT CUDDELES!**  
40-year-old gay woman, likes nice wine, candlelight, the sea, passionate people and places, muddy walks and cosy nights in. WLTm gay woman for friendship/relationship. Box 894541

**Women seeking women**

**NO TIME-WASTERS!**  
Genuine Frank, 61, slim brown hair, green eyes, romantic and sensitive, enjoys soul music, bowling, pubs and ake care of a female, 33-40 for a LTR. Box 442674



## MEN'S SPOTLIGHT

**HOW CAN YOU RESIST?**  
Down-to-earth loveable guy, 30, 5'8, stocky, blonde hair/blue eyes, likes the finer things in life, going out, eating in, pubs, WLTm genuine girl for LTR. Box 441947

**SECURITY & WARMTH**  
I'm 35, 6ft, have a beautiful 3yr old little girl, very honest, caring, looking for someone I can love and make a new life with... Box 896178

**REAL MAN**  
Honest, kind, caring male, 37, blond, 6ft, enjoys walks, cinema, nights in/out, family life, WLTm like-minded, genuine female. Sarah, please call again, leave contact details! Box 430440

**EVERYTHING I DO**  
Lee, driver, 39yr old, 6'3, dark hair, like pubs, clubs, wine bars, places of interest, sports and reading, with a woman for friendship and romance. Box 889720

**WARM ME UP**  
Single dad, 38, 6ft, large-stocky build, dark hair, great GSOH, likes nights out, sports and reading, with a woman for friendship and romance. Box 443643

**HI LADIES**  
I'm 38, 5'11, average build, like pubs, restaurants, cinema, quiet nights with chocs and DVDs, seeking kind, happy female with GSOH, for honest relationship. Box 442056

**U 4 ME?**  
Down-to-earth, loyal guy, 36, looking for companionship, single build, long-term relationship. Enjoys meals out, good company, conversation, cosy evenings in. Box 914917

**WORKS LIKE SEXY COUNTRY GIRL**  
Hi, I'm 40, down to earth, reliable, honest, like keeping fit, going out, meals out, watching movies, seeking similar lady for lasting love & happiness. Box 892445

**LOVE ON THE DANCEFLOOR**  
Outgoing young-minded male, 40, likes swimming, the gym, war games, books, cinema, castles, POI, seeking similar woman to boggle on the dancefloor with. Box 443750

**ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE**  
Responsible stylish male, 40yr old, 6'17, enjoys socialising, music, eating out, looking for a fun-loving female to start a committed relationship with. Box 442641

**PROFESSIONAL**  
Honest, easygoing professional single male, 38, 5'8", medium build, no ties, likes sports, going out, seeks outgoing woman for good times and bad. Box 934662

**THE PERSON INSIDE**  
Muscular male, 42, 5'8, many interests, looking for that special lady 25-50, looks unimportant, to love & take care of. Box 443460

**DON'T GO BREAKING MY HEART**  
Very easygoing, laid-back male, 43, 5'11, slim, hard-working, likes honest, socialising, eating out, evenings in, seeking loving, caring, honest, sincere female for love. Box 443719

**HAPPY-GO-LUCKY**  
43yr old, 5'8, medium build, average looks, gosh, seeks less, 30-40, to share some good times with. Box 443403

**BE THERE NOW**  
Old romantic, loyal, honest, 43, 5'17, brown hair, blue eyes, likes most things, WLTm female to settle down with, find love. Box 443410

**NO TIME-WASTERS!**  
Genuine Frank, 61, slim brown hair, green eyes, romantic and sensitive, enjoys soul music, bowling, pubs and ake care of a female, 33-40 for a LTR. Box 442674

## SILVER SERVICE!

Caring, understanding, not bad-looking, romantic male, 42, grey-silver hair, stocky, enjoys cooking, quiet nights in, seeks female, for romance, possible more. Box 157789

**MAKING THE MOST OF LIFE**  
Prod Dad, 44, 5'8, blue eyes, brown hair, slim, likes the gym, golf, mountain biking, WLTm shorter lady with nice personality, GSOH, for potential love. Box 443688

**LOOKS UNIMPORTANT**  
GAMER FOR A LAUGH!  
Dad of 2, 46, very romantic and full of life, enjoy wining/dining, looking for that special someone to share my life. Box 902141

**DEAR CUPID**  
Outgoing male, 47, very young-minded, enjoys sports, football, playing golf, loves nice wine, meals; seeking smart, elegant, easygoing lady for love & happiness! Box 435554

**IN YOUR EYES**  
Blond, blue-eyed male, 46, 5'8, enjoys socialising, cinema, live alone in Ashford, looking for a great lady for fun, friendship and more. Box 421664

**PUPPY LOVE**  
Dog-loving guy, I'm 47, 5'8, with short hair/green eyes, slim build, I love gardening, country walks, sports - football/tennis, DIY, animals. Box 428800

**LET'S SEE WHERE IT GOES...**  
Gentle male, 48, 5'13, medium build, WLTm nice, attractive, friendly, lady to be with lady who likes going out and socialising, for friendship first. Box 442869

**ALL THE FUD OF THE FAIR!**  
Mild, fun, friendly, likes pubs, cinema, restaurants, theme parks, wlm female, 36-45, slim, for possible LTR. Cranbrook Box 737529

**I AM HERE FOR YOU**  
6ft builder, 48, single dad, looking for fun friendship and relationship - if you like what you hear then let me know. Box 903511

**LET ME ENTERTAIN YOU**  
Busy business man, 50, medium build, enjoys cooking and eating out, with a female, 40-45, to wine, dine and entertain. Box 443282

**READ THIS!**  
50yr old man, looking for black lady, 30-60, I like eating in and out, walks, music, cinema, having a laugh. Like what you read? Box 439507

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• 0808 - FREE • 0871 - 10p/min • 09067 - 75p/min • 09065 - £1.00/min • 09052 - £1.20/min - contact your service provider for details of their charges. **TEXT BOX:** For your text messages, we will not be allowed to swap contact details until you have exchanged five messages each. **GUIDELINES:** Private individuals seeking long-term, monogamous relationships may advertise in your dating. We suggest that ads contain a self-description, age range, and lifestyle description. We reserve the right to refuse or edit any ad for any reason. Ads may not be submitted by persons younger than 18 years of age for publication in your dating. Also, no ads will be published seeking persons younger than 1



## MOTORS NEWS



### Make a Superb saving on your car insurance

SKODA is building a head of steam towards launching the all-new Superb executive model.

The latest boost is impressive insurance ratings against upper medium sector rivals, with the entry diesel 1.9 TDI PD 105bhp engine in 'S' trim rated Group 6E – three positions better than the outgoing Superb.

The entry petrol 1.4 TSI 125bhp engine also better its predecessor – rated Group 7E across all three trim levels.

The new Superb (from £15,490) goes on sale in the UK from 18 September and has already caught the eye with distinctive styling and double-function rear end with a bootlid that also hinges again to deliver hatchback versatility.



### Smart goes after even more sales

SALES of Smart's Fortwo city car have rocketed nearly 100 per cent this year.

No other car brand in the UK market comes close to such explosive growth and the little sister brand to Mercedes-Benz seems keen to kick volumes even higher, with a Limited Two special edition out this week.

Based on the popular 71bhp Smart Fortwo Passion and able to return 70mpg on a run, the Limited Two sells as a coupé or cabrio from £9,575, undercutting the Passion's £10,495 while gaining extra kit.



### 'Thanks girls' says Audi after collecting award

IT'S not clear what Audi's reaction is to the new A3 Convertible (from £22,300) being voted top convertible and Car of The Year by women's car-buying website evcars.com.

Of course the classy little soft top is a favourite with the ladies – especially in white – but did Audi really want the boys alienated quite so much?

After all, some versions of the car can do the 0-62mph dash in 7.4 seconds – more than enough to appeal to the well-heeled boy racer.



**BOXER DIESEL:** The rugged, high-riding Subaru Outback tested here, with its all-round comfort and smooth diesel engine, argues against the case for buying an SUV

# Subaru's new legacy goes flat out for diesel sales

SUBARU would probably like to be seen as the BMW or Audi of the Japanese motor industry, but there is also something of Citroën in the way it adheres to 'pet' features.

There is its penchant for frameless door glass although it is not famous for convertibles – the usual raison d'être for such detail.

The brand is also known for all-wheel drive, but Subaru's most famous selling point must be its passion – like that of Porsche – for horizontally-opposed or 'boxer' petrol engines that deliver the lightness, low centre of gravity and flexibility that powered the brand to rally fame.

However, these excellent yet thirsty powerplants have become an Achilles Heel with the rise of diesels and fuel prices, along with the threat from global warming.

Subaru might have responded by buying a diesel off the shelf, although this would have caused horrendous re-engineering for current models.

Instead, the brand created something never seen before in the car market – a boxer diesel.

## ROAD TEST SUBARU OUTBACK DSL

BY STEVE LOADER

### STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

And what a lovely piece of work it is.

In the rugged and high-riding Outback estate (from £23,665) tested here, it argues strongly against buying an SUV when you can have much of the rough ground performance and traction of such cars with all the comfort and convenience of a conventional estate.

But the biggest benefit of all is the lower vibration and greater smoothness that the boxer layout brings to a diesel; it is an exceptionally smooth 148bhp two-litre unit considering the amount of punch low down the rev range and not only outperforms the 2.5-litre petrol alternative but should also average 25-30 per cent better fuel consumption – although this is available only as an auto and the new diesel has yet to gain more than a five-speed manual box.

As expected, the Outback's 4x4 layout offers incredible tenacity though a relatively softly-sprung suspension, which delivers such comfort on and off-road, combined with the higher ride height, allows some heeling on the bends.

The interior is tough and well-organised without the flashiness or flair of rivals and there is an endearing 'retro-ness'.

• Email [steve.loader@hosmedia.co.uk](mailto:steve.loader@hosmedia.co.uk)



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- Air Conditioning
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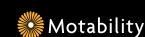
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## USED CAR ROUND-UP: OUR PICK FROM A KEY SECTOR

### ESTATES FOR ALL NEEDS

MPVs have stolen sales from more traditional sectors of the motor market, but do people gain enough extra space to offset less driver satisfaction, higher purchase prices and dull styling? Fact is you can still get much of what a used MPV offers by checking out secondhand estates and, like MPVs, they come in different sizes and classes. Our choice here offers widely different attractions; the Skoda is compact and dependable value, the Vauxhall a hugely capable load lugger, while the BMW is the epitome of an upmarket 'lifestyle estate'.

#### SKODA OCTAVIA



If you have not yet woken to used Skoda bargains, smell the coffee now with one of the best – the stylish estate spin-off from the brand's own wake-up model, the Octavia.

Mark 1 and 2s are now on the used market and diesels are the pick, though petrols can be bargains and the scorching vRS will put a smile on the face. The Octavia estate's real ace though is space within the modest dimensions of a VW Golf-based platform.

##### STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

#### BMW 3-SERIES TOURING



THREE generations ago, this car started the whole 'lifestyle estate' trend. Before that, estates were 'working cars'; after the first Touring was launched, the estate market split into load luggers for tradesmen and reps and trendy compact estates like the Beemer. As with all BMWs, the emphasis is on driver satisfaction and style while load-carrying comes second. Performance petrol engines are smooth and you can find bargains as fuel prices rise, while the refined diesels command ever better values.

##### STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

#### VAUXHALL VECTRA



WHAT will soon become the final Vectra model will also be remembered for the awesome estate. If you need size but your budget is limited then this is the car.

The secret is an extended wheelbase over and above the Vectra hatchback; combined with a huge rear opening and folding rear seats, this becomes the ultimate family estate car and an SRI or similar spec with alloys looks classy too. Diesels are the pick for low down power and economy.

##### STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

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**Official Government Test Environmental Data- Fuel Consumption Figures mpg (litres/100km): Astra Sport Hatch SXi 1.4i 16v 3dr: urban 35.3 (8.0), extra-urban 56.5 (5.0), combined 46.3 (6.1). CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions 146 g/km; Meriva Breeze Plus 1.6i 16v 5dr MPV: urban 31.7 (8.9), extra-urban 52.3 (5.4), combined 42.2 (6.7). CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions 159 g/km; Zafira Breeze Plus 1.6i 16v 5dr MPV: urban 30.1 (9.4), extra-urban 47.9 (5.9), combined 39.2 (7.2). CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions 172 g/km; Astra TwinTop Design 1.8i 16v: urban 28.2 (10.0), extra-urban 47.9 (5.9), combined 38.2 (7.4). CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions 177 g/km.**

Models shown may have optional extras available at an extra cost. 4 Years 0% Finance available on selected Astra, Astra TwinTop, Tigra, Meriva, Zafira and Vectra models. Minimum deposit of 30% required. Finance by GMAC UK plc subject to status. Applicants must be 18 or over. Available at participating retailers only. Offers apply to eligible new vehicles ordered or registered between 02.07.08 and 02.10.08, subject to availability, and are available to private individuals, Vauxhall Partners, and small businesses 1-24 (purchase only). All other sales categories are excluded. Offers may not apply to all retailer stocks. UK supplied vehicles only. (Vaux49465)



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YEAR	REG	MODEL	ENGINE	DOORS	COLOUR	MILEAGE	£	YEAR	REG	MODEL	ENGINE	DOORS	COLOUR	MILEAGE	£
CORSA								COMMERCIAL							
2004	G004GXC	Corsa Energy	12	5	Silver lightening	19,020	4,895	2006	GJ56JAF	Movano	25 CDTi LWB	Silver	14,000	£11,695+VAT	
2007	GJ07XBX	New Corsa Life	12	3	Silver lightening	12,100	6,995	2007	GK57ZNP	Combo	13D CDTi	White	Delivery	£7,695+VAT	
2007	GK57ZNT	New Corsa Sxi CDTi	17D	5	Star silver	8,800	10,995	2008	GJ08MOK	Vivaro	20CDTi	Black	Delivery	£13,495+VAT	
2007	GL57NWE	Corsa Sxi A/c	12	5	Silver lightening	7,100	8,995	2008	GF08MFE	Vivaro	20CDTi	White	Delivery	£10,995+VAT	
2007	GK57ZPT	Signum CDTi Exclusiv Nav	19D	5	Star silver	9,950		2008	GF08MDO	Vivaro	20CDTi	White	Delivery	£11,495+VAT	
TIGRA								2007	GK57ZNU	Astravan	17D	White	5,445	£7,995+VAT	
2005	LY05RYM	Tigra CC	14	2	Black sapphire	17,650	8,695	2007	VN07OKB	Astravan	19 CDTi	Moonland	25,000	8,495+VAT	
MERIVA								2007	GK57ZPR	Combo	13D CDTi	White	13,475	£6,995+VAT	
2004	CT04JLL	Meriva Enjoy 16v	16	5	Rubens red	11,550	5,295	2007	GK57ZPC	Combo	13 CDTi	White	3,400	£7,795+VAT	
2007	GK57ZNV	Meriva VXR	16	5	Arden blue	2,680	12,495	2007	GJ07JUB	Combo	13D Crew van	White	8,700	£7,795+VAT	
2008	GJ08BHK	Meriva Breeze	14	5	Black sapphire	3,550	9,995	2005	GL555ZJ*	Vivaro	19D	Red	57,500	£9,495+VAT	
2008	GJ08HBB	Meriva Design MTA	16	5	Steel blue	1,295	12,695	2007	GK57ZNX	Vivaro	19 CDTi	White	12,100	£9,995+VAT	
AGILA								2007	GK57ZPD	Movano	250CDTi	White	10,300	£12,995+VAT	
2001	GF51KOH*	Agila Energy	12	5	Green tea	76,350	2,595	DUE SOON							
ASTRA								2004	04/04*	Traffic	19DCI	Blue	75,000	£6250+VAT	
2003	GJ53ASV*	Astra Convertible	18	2	Star silver	29,500	6,895	2005	GK55OMF	Agila Design	12	5	Yellow	31,000	5,295
2003	GJ53NHF	Astra Elegance Estate	22	5	Satin red	42,000	4,995	2006	06	Tigra Exclusiv	14	2	Antigua	18,000	9,995
2005	VAS4NHF*	Astra CDTi Sxi X pack	19D	5	Silver lightening	75,825	6,995	2005	GL05VUD	Corsa Breeze	12	5	Silver lightening	25,000	5,695
2005	NG05LFS	Astra Club	16	5	Silver lightening	19,500	6,895	2005	GK55VXX	Corsa SXI A/c	12	3	Silver lightening	69,000	4,295
2005	EN05KXR	Astra Club E/T	16	5	Silver lightening	11,350	6,695	2006	GF56PFV	Corsa Sxi Auto	14	3	Black sapphire	13,650	7,495
2005	GF05ZTK	Astra Club E/T	16	5	Metallic green	7,300	6,695	2007	GL57NWC	Corsa Design	14	5	Silver lightening	TBA	10,250
2006	GJ06NDE	Astra Sxi Sports hatch	14	3	Silver lightening	28,650	8,995	2005	GK55OMD	Astra Sxi Sports hatch	14	3	Ultra blue	33,000	7,395
2007	GK07ZET	Astra Auto Design	18	5	Moonland	11,000	8,995	2005	GJ55NYU	Astra Breeze	16	5	Silver lightening	36,000	6,995
2007	GK57ZPU	Astra Club CDTi Est	13D	5	Panacotta	8,275	11,995	2005	GJ55NZM	Astra Elite	16	5	Star silver	24,000	7,175
2007	GK57ZPP	Astra Club CDTi	17D	5	Star silver	10,680	10,295	2008	GJ08GZV	Astra Sxi Ex pack	19D	5	Silver	5,000	14,995
2008	GL57NQU	Astra Breeze Plus	17D	5	Star silver	12,300	11,495	2008	GJ08GZD	Astra Exc IS200 Conv	19D	2	Black	8,000	16,995
ZAFIRA								2008	GF08BOK	Astra Sxi Sports hatch	18	3	Black	6,000	10,995
2003	FP53KVH*	Zafira Elegance DTi	20	5	Black sapphire	66,350	5,995	2008	GJ08GZX	Astra Design	16	5	Black	3,000	11,495
2003	CUS3YON*	Zafira Club	18	5	Ultra blue	48,600	4,995	2008	GF08BKL	Astra Sxi Sport hatch	14	3	Power red	6,000	9,995
2005	GL05AUC	Zafira Design	16	5	Silver lightening	36,280	6,695	2008	GF08BKJ	Astra Breeze CDTi	17D	5	Silver	7,000	10,295
2005	FD05JWP	Zafira Life	18	5	Ultra blue	38,250	6,650	2008	GF08BJV	Astra Breeze Plus	16	5	Silver	7,000	10,695
2005	RN05DZU	Zafira Design	16	5	Star silver	39,000	6,495	2004	GK04WHW	Meriva Energy	16	5	Silver	44,000	5,295
2005	GK55ONW	New Zafira Life A/c	16	5	Flame red	31,650	7,995	2005	GJ55HVL	Vectra Exclusive CDTi Est	19D	5	Star silver	21,000	8,250
VECTRA								2008	GJ08GZN	Vectra Exclusive CDTi	19D	5	Silver	4,000	12,495
2005	G05KVVX	Vectra Sxi	22	5	Star silver	30,550	7,295	2005	GJ55TRU	Vectra Club	16	5	Silver lightening	43,000	7,145
2007	KL07FTN	Vectra Design	18	5	Star silver	12,650	9,650	2006	GL06AHD	Zafira Active CDTi Auto	19D	5	Silver lightening	20,000	9,995
2007	GF07HKB	Vectra Exclusive	18	5	Metro blue	10,690	8,175	2008	GJ08HBO	Zafira Breeze	19D	5	Silver	5,000	12,995
2007	GK57ZNY	Vectra Exclusive + pack	18	5	Pomegranate red	4,675	9,995	2008	GJ08HBO	Zafira Sxi Ex pack Estate	19D	5	Silver lightening	8,000	16,995
2008	GL57NOK	Vectra CDTi Exclusive Auto	19D	5	Ultra blue	5,350	12,995	NON VAUXHALL							
2001	Y918MH*	Ford Focus Zetec	16	3	Metallic blue	39,100	3,795	2001	Y918MH*	Ford Focus Zetec	16	3	Metallic blue	39,100	3,795
2006	RU56NNY	Hyundai Coupe Atlantic	20	2	Silver	17,200	8,995	2006	RU56NNY	Hyundai Coupe Atlantic	20	2	Silver	17,200	8,995
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**156**, T Spark 1.6 16v Turismo Man, gl04vcd, cloth upholstery, air conditioning, cd player, radio, central locking, immobiliser, locking wheel nuts, remote alarm, remote central locking, adjustable steering column, power steering, traction control, trip computer, abs, side air bags, twin air bags, colour coded body, front fog lamps, automatic electric windows, electric front windows, electric mirrors, 15" alloys, red, 59000 miles, £4499, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

## AUDI

**A2**, 1.4 Sport 5dr, 03/10/2002 silver, 58488 miles, £6499, Invicta Motors, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

**A4**, 1.9TDI 130 se estate, 2003, blue m with grey cloth, 67000 miles, £3950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

## BMW

**3 SERIES**, 1.6i Saloon 4d 1596cc, 1316vmo, met 11/04/08 good runner, green, miles, £995.00, DCD Autos, Ashford, 01233 642211 (TRADE)

**5 SERIES**, 535d SPORT AUTO E60, yp54uw, titanium silver, 73000 miles, £20000, Big Motoring World, Wrotham Heath, 01732 220555 (TRADE)

## CADILLAC

**CTS**, cts 3.6 sport luxury v6, 2005, light platinum with black leather, 22379 miles, £12950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

## CHEVROLET

**CAPTIVA**, LTX 2.0, gk08orw, finished in denim blue with black interior, blue, 4000 miles, £22995, Caffyns Chevrolet T Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

**LACETTI**, SX 5dr, gk56ziz, folding rear seats, aluminium silver, 4000 miles, £9495, Automatically Ray Morris (Welling), Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

**MATIZ**, 1.0 SE+ Hatchback 5dr 955cc, 56/2006, a/con radio/cd player electric windows pas abs central locking, metallic blue, 14, 000 miles, £4995, Cheriton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

**TACUNA**, SX 56, reduced for quick sale, just under 2 years old and low mileage, air con, fsh, abs, air bags, electric windows and wing mirrors, heated wing mirrors, removable cd player with steering wheel mounted controls, three full size seats in rear, seat back trays, storage units in floor, balance of manufacturers warranty to sept 2009 and no mot until then, blue, 6570 miles, £4999, kent, 01794702003 (PRIVATE)

## HYUNDAI

**COUPE**, 2.0 Siil 3dr, registered 2007 mileage 11138 miles, transmission manual body style coupe, fuel type petrol exterior silver, there are a variety of warranty options which our sales team will be happy to explain to you, car now reduced to £10795, silver, £10795, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

**ELANTRA**, 1.6 GSi 5dr Auto, gn51ura, abs, air conditioning, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, electric sunroof, foglights, front armrest, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, rear armrest, side airbags, radio/cd, first to see will buy showroom condition, silver, 40788 miles, £1994, SMC Mitsubishi Sittingbourne, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

**GETZ**, 2005, 3x3 point rear seat belts abs air conditioning alarm alloys body coloured bumpers drivers airbag electrodour mirrors electric sunroof folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights front head restraints remote central locking side airbags steering wheel rake adjustment trip computer, seaside blue, 25062 miles, £5995, WJ King Vauxhall, Woolwich, 020 8854 8161 (TRADE)

**TUCSON**, 2.0 Crtd Cdx 5dr Auto, 1359649, hyundai tucson 2.0 crtd cdx 5dr auto £3,995.00, registration gk55vpx sale price £3,995.00, registered 2005 mileage 18510 miles, transmission automatic body style estate, fuel type diesel exterior silver, number of doors 5 interior grey, previous owners 2 interior trim leather, there are a variety of warranty options which our sales team will be happy to explain to you, silver, £5995, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

## SUZUKI

**RODEO**, Denver Max TD Pu 4x4 Dcb, ve56nla, alarm, immobiliser, locking wheel nuts, remote central locking, centre armrest, adjustable steering column, power steering, satellite navigation, abs, air bag, front fog lamps, metallic paintwork, electric windows, air conditioning, cd player, 3-person rear seat, full leather, 18" alloys, 4x4, aluminium silver, 15520 miles, £12500, Van Zone Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 0844 8446528 (TRADE)

**TROOPER**, CITATION 3.5 V6 LWB, 1999 (t), 99 (t) 4x4, 5 door, stunning met green coachwork with contrasting velour trim, service history, new mot, full electric pack, remote central locking, alarm, air con, electric windows 4, electric 8 folding mirrors, twin air bags, 2 & 4 wheel drive, alloy wheels, cd hi-fi, tow bar and twin electric pack, + much more, never taken off road, stunning condition, metallic green, 93000 miles, £3995, Riviera Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 244244 (TRADE)

## JEEP

**GRAND CHEROKEE**, 1997, green, 180000 miles, £2265, County City Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

## PORSCHE

**911**, 3.6 Carrera 2 Tiptronic S Coupe 2d 3596cc auto (2002), 019" turbo alloys, salt pan, phone module, rear parktronic, sports chrono pack, sports seats, vts tracking system, rear wiper, premium carpet mats, climate, Bose, cd, fsh, please view our website to see our full stock, basalt black with black leather, only 3,000 miles, £65000, Vikings Canterbury, Canterbury, 01227 711112 (TRADE)

**911 CARRERA 4**, 2002, meridian silver with blue leather, 46000 miles, £29950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

**911 TURBO**, 3.6 manual, 2003, black metallic with black leather, 17800 miles, £49950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

**CAYMAN**, 3.4 S 2dr, 2006, 3.4 s 2dr coupe, dark blue, 26000 miles, £33995, Wilmoths Ashford, Ashford, 01233 640100 (TRADE)

## SEAT

**ALHAMBRA**, 1.9 TDI PD SE 7 Seat 5dr Auto, 09/10/2003, cd player driver airbag, silver, 92000 miles, £8000, Invicta Motors, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

**LEON**, SPORT 1.6 102PS 5dr, June 2007 gl07mbu, one previous keeper, power steering, remote central locking, seat height adjuster, sports seats, split rear seats, alloy wheels, rear parking sensors, ada blue metallic, demo miles miles, £12,295, Hollis Motors, Dover, 01304 206710 (TRADE)

## SKODA

**FABIA**, CLASSIC Htp 5dr, fm05cte, immobiliser, cloth upholstery, colour coded interior, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, power steering, trip computer, abs, child locks, twin air bags, colour coded body, rear wash/wipe, air conditioning, cd player, blue, 67000 miles, £3990, AR Cars, Kent, 01342 851122 (TRADE)

**OCTAVIA**, RS 5dr, 10040578, remote central locking, immobiliser, remote alarm, half leather, lumbar support, sports seats, rear armrest, rear headrests, rear wash/wipe, rear spoiler, abs, adjustable steering column, electric mirrors, electric windows, climate control, radio, multi-disc cd player, 17" alloys, red, 28075 miles, £8995, Saunders Abbott, Sidcup, 020 8300 2450 (TRADE)

## SMART CAR

**SMART**, 0.6 PULSE Hatchback 3d 599cc Semi-Automatic (2002), 04, triptronic 6 speed fun and cheap cars.history, cd player, 67000 miles, £3990, AR Cars, Kent, 01342 851122 (TRADE)

## SUBARU

**IMPREZA**, PRODRIVE WRX TURBO AWD, y247gap, central locking, remote alarm, cloth upholstery, sports seats, adjustable steering column, power steering, abs, air bag, front fog lamps, colour coded body, electric windows, 4x4, aluminium silver, 45514 miles, £6795, Lifestyle Subaru Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 0844 8446514 (TRADE)

**JUSTY**, 1.0 R, gl08orc, central locking, cloth upholstery, folding rear seats, power steering, multiple airbags, metallic paintwork, electric front windows, air conditioning, cd player, silver, 2468 miles, £7599, Lifestyle Subaru Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 0844 8446514 (TRADE)

**LEGACY**, RE SPORTS TOURER AWD, gl08opy, anti-theft system, remote central locking, full leather, electric seats, folding rear seats, rear armrest, trip computer, abs, multiple airbags, headlamp jetwash, 4x4, aluminium silver, 12 miles, £16495, Lifestyle Subaru Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 0844 8446514 (TRADE)

## SUZUKI

**ALTO**, 1.1 GL Hatchback 5dr, 54/2005, pas central locking electric windows, bright red, 15, 000 miles, £3995, Cheriton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

**GRAND VITARA**, 2000, blue, 36000 miles, £3995, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

**SWIFT**, 1.6 VVT SPORT 3dr, lro8vww, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, insurance group 9, red, 3658 miles, £10494, SMC Mitsubishi Sittingbourne, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

## TOYOTA

**CELICA**, WTT-1 Premium Blue, en04xc, remote alarm, remote central locking, adjustable steering column, power steering, abs, twin air bags, rear spoiler, rear wash/wipe, electric windows, air conditioning, cd player, radio, alloy wheels, blue, 28000 miles, £8990, AR Cars, Kent, 01342 851122 (TRADE)

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**Senior & General Appointments** 40-43

**Public Notice** 43

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We are seeking additional full-time accountancy staff to join our expanding three partner professional practice. With a background in a small or medium size accountancy firm we require candidates who must be self-motivated individuals with a positive attitude and good communication skills. The successful candidate will ideally be AAT qualified, with knowledge of IRIS accounts production, and Sage book-keeping experience. A competitive salary is available together with the opportunity to work on a broad range of clients and to develop your career in an increasingly challenging environment. Training opportunities are also available for progression towards the ACA/ACCA qualification.

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Beak Kemmenoe  
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## 2 x Alternative Curriculum Pupil Referral Unit Managers

One post will cover Maidstone area and the other the Tonbridge area  
Starting salary £35,370, with progression through contribution related pay to £40,705 per annum  
Based at either Kroner House, Ashford or Bishops Terrace, Maidstone

The Alternative Curriculum Pupil Referral Units are a dynamic and creative part of Kent's wider framework of PRUs. Serving the needs of Local Children's services Partnerships, they are working to create, monitor and evaluate excellent alternative provision for excluded and other 'hard to place' Key Stage 4 pupils across the county. The AC PRUs have been devolved to work locally for groups of LCSPs in order to better meet the needs of vulnerable children and young people in these communities in the context of 'Every Child Matters'.

As the high profile manager of the AC PRU, you will work with a team in the community and be responsible for the commissioning, co-ordination and monitoring of a range of alternative curriculum projects for excluded and other vulnerable young people at KS4. Together these projects make up the 'classrooms' and 'workshops' of the Alternative Curriculum PRU.

You will work closely with LCSP Managers and schools within the relevant partnerships and report to them. You will have experience of working successfully with seriously disaffected young people, have an excellent knowledge of schools issues, an awareness of SEN issues and procedures and be capable of working with diverse multi-agency teams.

You will be able to assess the quality of learning in alternative curriculum projects within your PRU and feel comfortable about leading relevant staff training. You will be keen to be part of a team that works at the cutting edge of changes in the education system. The post requires experience, originality and vision. When applying please mark clearly on your application form which area you wish to be considered for.

To apply, visit [www.kent.gov.uk/jobs](http://www.kent.gov.uk/jobs) Alternatively, please email [recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk](mailto:recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk) or call 0845 8247 904. Please quote reference CFE/08/0421.

Closing date: Midday, 4th September 2008.



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## Public Rights Of Way Officer - Network Management

£20,061 - 29,920 per annum  
(Salary dependent on experience and progression through the Career Grade is based on the fulfilment of required competencies.)

### Kings Hill

Kent County Council is seeking to appoint a Public Rights of Way Officer to join the busy West Kent PROW Team, based at Kings Hill. Have you ever considered working in Kent? Known as the garden of England for good reason, with its beautiful, historic and varied landscapes, idyllic villages and diverse towns, Kent has a lot to offer. On the doorstep of mainland Europe you are only 45 minutes away from enjoying a coffee and croissant in France, or of course popping into London to catch a show!

With over 6700km of public rights of way, Kent County Council manages the largest network in the country. It also has an excellent national reputation in service delivery and forward thinking, dynamic new initiatives. The West Kent Public Rights Of Way Team is looking for a new officer to join them to manage the Maidstone area network.

Responsible for a specific geographical area of the county, you will undertake a variety of operational duties particularly with respect to the maintenance and protection of public rights of way. A substantial proportion of the area sits within the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. You will work closely with landowners, local councils and other agencies. A significant proportion of your workload will come from the general public.

The post carries a high-volume workload. You will be able to juggle numerous competing priorities and adapt readily to the use of new technology. You will be a team player and be educated to HND/Degree level or equivalent in a related subject. The post also requires a high level of motivation, a good knowledge of rights of way law and practice and related countryside access issues and excellent organisational and communication skills.

This post is subject to an Enhanced Disclosure Application to the Criminal Records Bureau.

To apply, visit [www.kent.gov.uk/jobs](http://www.kent.gov.uk/jobs) Alternatively, please email [recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk](mailto:recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk) or call 0845 8247 904. Please quote reference number ER/08/0107.

Closing date: Midday 5th September 2008.



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Mid-Kent College of Higher & Further Education is one of the largest providers of Further Education in Kent with ambitious plans to build on its existing reputation.

At a time of unprecedented change the College is looking to recruit professionals to help deliver excellence in the following areas:

## Further Education Sports Co-ordinator (FESCO)

15 hours per week, 3 years fixed term.

Salary: Circa £25,000 pro rata

Mid-Kent College and The Medway and Maidstone School Sport Partnerships have joined together to deliver the next stage of the PE & sports strategy for young people.

An exciting new opportunity has arisen for an enthusiastic and dynamic person who holds coaching or fitness qualifications and has a passion for sport and working with young people.

This position will focus on 3 main objectives for the 16-19 age group:

1. To increase sports participation
2. To improve sporting performance
3. To encourage sports leadership and volunteering

The post will also involve establishing links with the wider sports community.

**The closing date for applications is Friday 12 September 2008.**

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and vulnerable adults and anyone applying for work with the College is expected to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to an Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure.

Application forms and further details are available from [www.midkent.ac.uk](http://www.midkent.ac.uk). Alternatively, please e-mail [job.applications@midkent.ac.uk](mailto:job.applications@midkent.ac.uk). For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 845402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title.

Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunities employer



achievement employability experience development

## Canterbury College

Canterbury College is a leading FE and HE College which offers opportunities and an environment in which our 800 staff and 12,000 learners can reach their potential, so we can achieve our goal of being one of the best Colleges by 2010. To support this, the College has been undergoing a £50 million re-development, which opened in January 2008. We are now developing plans for Phase 3, for completion in 2012.

<b>Co-ordinator Mathematics</b>	<b>08/61</b>
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £26,365 per annum	
<b>Lecturer in Science</b>	<b>08/60</b>
18.5 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum	
<b>Lecturer Key Skills within Early Years and Public Services</b>	<b>08/39</b>
37 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum	
<b>Trainer Demonstrator Animal Care</b>	<b>04/94</b>
18.5 hours per week, salary starting from £18,375 pro rata per annum	
<b>Signer/Learning Facilitator</b>	<b>08/104</b>
37 hrs per week, 38 weeks term time. Salary starting from £16,364 pro rata per annum. Temporary post to cover maternity until January 2009.	
<b>Teacher Education Administrator</b>	<b>08/124</b>
18.5 hrs per week, salary starting from £14,535 pro rata per annum	
<b>On-line Examinations Assistant</b>	<b>08/79</b>
18.5 hrs per week, salary starting from £14,535 pro rata per annum	

For an application pack please visit [www.cant-col.ac.uk](http://www.cant-col.ac.uk) or call the Personnel Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.

**The closing date for the above posts is Monday 8th September 2008 at 12 noon.**

**Staff benefits include:**

- Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme
- Proximity to Mainbus / Train Stations
- Close to City Centre
- Sports Hall and Gym
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Staff Discount Scheme

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## Team Leader

Starting salary £29,920, with progression through contribution related pay to £35,370 per annum  
Fixed term until August 2009

Westwood Centre, Margate

This potentially challenging, yet highly rewarding role will encourage an organised, innovative and focussed approach to education, working effectively with the curriculum to provide core subjects, vocational experiences and the development of an inclusive approach to wider supportive services and the extended schools agenda.

We are developing an innovative project designed to meet the holistic educational needs of those who have been identified at risk of permanent exclusion in Key Stage Four within an off-school setting for fifty young people.

Your primary function will be to manage and support the Kent Safe Schools Alternative Curriculum Provision at the Westwood Centre.

You will also work alongside staff, agencies, schools, communities, parents and young people to identify opportunities to establish robust working partnerships. Managing the provision of full-time education for the young people along with the shared responsibility for supporting other staff in a similar area, with a particular focus on the co-ordination of services, induction and training will also be part of your remit.

You'll be bright, full of ideas and enjoy using your initiative, joining our dedicated and highly effective staff team.

With a good understanding of educational issues, you will possess experience of working with young people, specifically in the secondary sector.

If you have experience of and a commitment to working with young people, and supporting and offering guidance to other colleagues, we would love to hear from you.

This post is subject to an Enhanced Disclosure Application to the Criminal Records Bureau.

To apply, visit [www.kent.gov.uk/jobs](http://www.kent.gov.uk/jobs)

Alternatively, please email [recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk](mailto:recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk) or call 0845 8247 904. Please quote reference number CFE/o8/0425.

Closing date: Midday, 1 September 2008.



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**If you are a tradesperson who wants to pursue a new career, this is your chance to help train the Military Engineers of tomorrow.**

**Mid Kent College are currently looking for:**

### Electrical Instructor £28,219 - £30,312 per annum

You will be responsible for instruction and demonstration to trainees of the electrical trade, allied skills and related technology. If you have the ability to work as a member of a team and hold City and Guilds 236 Part 3 Course C qualification we would like to hear from you.

### Electrical and Mechanical Draughtsman £28,219 - £30,312 per annum

You will be required to instruct and demonstrate to trainees by oral, visual and/or other means the Draughtsman Electrical and Mechanical trade, allied skills, and related technology. If you have completed a recognised apprenticeship and have experience of working and an Electrical and/or Mechanical Draughtsman we would like to hear from you.

### Construction Draughtsman Instructor £28,219 - £30,312 per annum

You will be required to prepare demonstrations, lessons, lectures, class work and homework to enable trainees to achieve approved training objectives within this trade. If you have knowledge of the skills required for drawing office work associated with building technology and hold a City and Guilds in CAD using AutoCAD then we would like to hear from you.

For an application form and job description visit our website [www.midkent.ac.uk](http://www.midkent.ac.uk) or email [rsme.recruitment@midkent.ac.uk](mailto:rsme.recruitment@midkent.ac.uk)

Closing date for applications is Friday 12 September 2008 and interviews will be held at the end of September 2008.

Informal enquiries are very welcome, please telephone

Marie Cook, Personnel Officer 01634 884736 or Iain Donaldson, Personnel Director 01634 884422.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunity employer

The College is committed to Equal Opportunities and to selection on merit. It welcomes applications from all sections of society. We particularly welcome and encourage applications from under represented groups including black, minority ethnic and disabled people.







### Contact Centre Supervisor

Starting salary £18,288 + 10% Shift Allowance with progression through contribution related pay to £20,061 + 10% Shift Allowance per annum

#### Invicta House, Maidstone

The Kent County Council Contact Centre operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week from our state-of-the-art, central Maidstone location. Working 8pm - 8am on Thursday, Friday and Saturday and alternate Sundays and to cover bank holidays, you will supervise and develop your team, ensuring the provision of an efficient, highly professional and customer focused out of hour's service to the customers of Kent County Council.

You will have demonstrated competence in a customer-focused role, with a proven ability to motivate a team in what is a potentially pressured role. It's a varied role that focuses on the coaching, development and appraisal of your team.

With excellent verbal and written communication skills, you'll be PC literate and have the ability to prioritise the workload of the team in a logical and methodical manner. This will include the need to balance the requirements of call taking and delivering admin support to the Centre.

An enthusiastic approach to this role is essential, as is the ability to be flexible in a constantly developing environment. If you are looking for a job that fits with your life and provides a challenge please contact us.

This post is subject to an Enhanced Disclosure Application to the Criminal Records Bureau.

To apply, visit [www.kent.gov.uk/jobs](http://www.kent.gov.uk/jobs) Alternatively, please email [recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk](mailto:recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk) or call 08458 247 904. Please quote reference number CMY/08/0207.

Closing date: Midday, 19 September 2008.



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**NORTHFLEET SCHOOL FOR GIRLS**  
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Tel: 0844 477 25252

As a Building Schools for the Future school we are undergoing a significant new build project commencing the summer of 2008. Our school facilities will be enhanced to allow us to offer exciting opportunities in all areas of the curriculum – be it science, sport or humanities.

Our curriculum too is changing to meet the best needs of students. As well as the traditional pathways through A Levels we are committed to providing Diploma, Young Apprenticeships and a range of vocational courses. At KS3 we are developing flexible learning to energise and challenge our students. Our new focus means we have opportunities for

### Teachers of English & History

Support staff

#### Aim Higher Learning Mentor

35 hours per week term time only Kent Scheme  
Grade 6 - £15,576 - £17,040 p.a.

Experience of working with young people of school age is essential in this role which supports students to overcome the barriers to progressing from pre to post 16 learning and gives advice and guidance on higher level progression and careers.

#### Careers Officer

20 hours per week term time only Kent Scheme  
Grade 4 - £7,040 - £7,399 p.a.

At Northfleet School for Girls our careers programme is an integral part of pupils' education. We wish to appoint a Careers Officer to provide a guidance service for the whole school community in partnership with the Connexions Service and in support of the Personal, Social, Health Education (PSHE) curriculum.

We are a successful, over subscribed girls' school within the Thamesgateway, close to both the Ebbsfleet terminal and Bluewater outlet. Students in the 11-18 age range have an excellent reputation for the quality of our support of students and our examination results.

Northfleet School for Girls is an equal opportunities employer and operates a no smoking policy within the whole school site.

For further information please contact Mrs Theresa Davies or Mrs Sam Chisholm or check the school website - [www.northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk](http://www.northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk)  
Northfleet School for Girls Tel: 0844 477 2525  
email: [personnel@northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk](mailto:personnel@northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk)

Closing date for applications: Thursday, 11 September 2008

## TRAINEE CAD TECHNICIAN

Bruce, Cufley & Partners, a respected local firm of Structural Engineers, are seeking a young person interested in the Construction Industry. The person must be willing to be trained as a CAD Technician and wishes to gain further qualifications by attending a college on day release basis. Applicants should be qualified to GCSE Grade C or above in English, Mathematics and a Science (excluding Biology) or equivalent.

Applications should be in writing to:-  
Peter Mann, Bruce, Cufley & Partners,  
Suite V, Epsilom House, Laser Quay,  
Culpeper Close, Rochester, Kent, ME2 4HU  
Or e-mail to [bcp@brucecufley.co.uk](mailto:bcp@brucecufley.co.uk)

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e-mail: [admin@townleygrammar.org.uk](mailto:admin@townleygrammar.org.uk)

## OFFICE MANAGER

FULL TIME

(36 Hours per week - 52 Weeks per year)

Salary: NJC Scale 6 - point 26 -28 (£23,097 - £24,528)

We are seeking to appoint a full time office manager to take responsibility for the management of a very busy school office. Townley Grammar School for Girls is a popular over-subscribed girls' selective school constructed on a 17 acre site with Performing and Visual Arts status. The school enjoys an excellent relationship with the community and a high reputation for quality and achievement.

The successful applicant will manage the school office, including a team of eight administration assistants and should be flexible and able to prioritise their workload. Significant experience of working in a school office is essential as well as initiative and discretion. Good word processing skills, good communication skills both verbal and written are essential as is knowledge of SIMS.

Application forms and further details are available from Theresa Howard PA to the Head Teacher, to whom completed forms should be returned by Tuesday 16th September 2008.

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people.

The School operates a no smoking policy



# EADS

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- Radar System Engineers
- EW System Engineers
- Software Engineers

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- Good University degree, PhD or Masters degree in Electronic / Communications Engineering
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- Ability to control and manage complex engineering tasks in time, schedule and cost
- Basic knowledge of German is desirable but not essential

For further information please contact +49 731 392 6123, or send an e-mail to [Manuela.Holderried@eads.com](mailto:Manuela.Holderried@eads.com)  
Please forward your application to the following address:

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Defence Electronics  
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[www.eads.com](http://www.eads.com)





## Foster carers wanted

The Caldecott Foundation, which cares for vulnerable children who have experienced extreme trauma and disruption, seeks dedicated and highly motivated foster carers. Comprehensive training and support given, plus excellent rates of pay.  
**Contact Jamie Bromfield or Erica Eversfield on 01303 815648 or email [fostering@caldecottfoundation.co.uk](mailto:fostering@caldecottfoundation.co.uk)**



The Caldecott Foundation, Smethth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SP.

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## the University of Greenwich at Medway

The Universities at Medway is jointly owned and managed by the Universities of Greenwich and Kent. Other partnership parties are currently Canterbury Christ Church University and Mid-Kent College.

### INFORMATION AND LIBRARY SERVICES SYSTEMS SUPPORT TECHNICIAN

Ref: 01053/K3

We are seeking to recruit an experienced Systems Support Technician to assist in the management, support and ongoing maintenance of the shared desktop and associated server infrastructure, providing services to the Universities at Medway.

You will participate in the creation, implementation and testing of the shared desktop and will be responsible for maintaining the image and ensuring all desktop and server infrastructure is regularly patched and updated. You will make recommendations for improvements and implement any additional services required by the Drill Hall and ensure that the necessary security and backup/recovery procedures are in place.

You must have significant experience in both server and desktop technologies and have been responsible for installing and supporting environments running Windows XP and Server 2003. You must have experience with administering Active Directory, particularly group policy management and software distribution.

Any experience of Novell Netware/Unix/Linux, VMware, Vista, RIS/WDS/WSUS and application packaging is highly desirable. Occasionally you may be expected to provide first line support duties within the library.

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### WEEKEND SERVICES CO-ORDINATOR (FIXED TERM FOR 2 YEARS)

Ref: 01054/K3

We are looking for an enthusiastic and energetic person to join our Drill Hall library team. You will have the role of managing the weekend support team (1 member of reception/security and 2 student workers) to provide a seamless IT and library support service to students of the Universities at Medway - currently comprising of students from Canterbury Christ Church, University of Greenwich, University of Kent and Mid Kent College.

You will have a background of library or IT helpdesk or HE education. You will have a knowledge or willingness to learn online information products and some specialist software. Excellent knowledge of Microsoft Office is essential.

The post is fixed term for two years as we may wish to evaluate the service we are offering. The post is for 17.5 hours a week for 35 weeks. We need to provide cover between September and July on Saturdays and Sundays: 10.45 am - 5.15 pm plus five and a half hours during the week, ideally Friday 12.00 pm-6.00 pm.

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Ref: 01055/K3

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We are looking for someone with excellent administrative and organisational skills with good secretarial and administrative experience, who would like to work within a team that is committed to developing and maintaining a high level of customer care to the wide ranging users of the Drill Hall Library.

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Salary £17,169 - £19,263 per annum

### SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING COMPUTING OFFICER

Ref: 01056/K3

An opportunity exists for a Computing Officer within the School of Engineering at the University of Greenwich at Medway

The duties will include provision of laboratory support to academic staff and students principally within the School's Computing and Communications Laboratories at Medway.

Applicants should have a sound technical education and knowledge of computing technology and communications networks. Experience in the use of network systems and server/client models is desirable, as is experience in the use of change management systems. In addition, experience of the use of IT within an educational establishment would be an advantage. You will need to work on your own initiative but also as part of team.

Salary £19,841 - £22,332 per annum

### WORKSHOP TECHNICIAN

Ref: 01057/K3

An opportunity exists for a Workshop Technician within the School of Engineering, Wolfson Centre Laboratories, Medway campus.

The duties will include the construction of test rigs and apparatus principally within the Wolfson Centre for Bulk Solids Handling Technology.

Applicants should have a sound technical education and knowledge of manufacturing techniques. Experience in the use of handling equipment is desirable. In addition, experience of the use of IT within processing industries would be an advantage. You will need to work on your own initiative but also as part of team.

Salary £19,841 - £22,332 per annum

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For an informal discussion, please contact Mark Bailey on 01622 747010.

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#### Approved Premises for Civil Marriages & Civil Partnerships

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: **The Owl Restaurant, Gore Farm, Oak Lane, Upchurch**

Applicant: **Ken Herbert**

The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the grant of an approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the following address

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Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX





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## BUSINESS BRIEFS

### Unfair VAT bills add extra costs to claim

CLAIMING back unfair VAT bills could become even more of a burden.

Under a proposed rule change, businesses are no longer entitled to claim costs at a tribunal, even if successful, according to leading accountancy firm Horwath Clark Whitehill.

Robert Warne, a partner at the firm, which has offices in Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells, said the change proposed by the Ministry of Justice will have a particularly severe impact on small and medium sized enterprises, which will be unwilling to invest time and money in the tribunal process if they cannot guarantee they will recoup the expense.

They often receive inaccurate assessments for relatively small amounts and in the past have appealed on the basis they would recover costs if successful.

### A billion dollar read

A NEW book promises to have you gripped with the thrill of the biggest and most hard-fought takeover battle of recent years.

Cold Steel – Britain's richest man and the multi-billion-dollar battle for a global empire is written by journalist Tim Bouquet and leading international PR consultancy managing director Byron Ouse.

It tells the story of how Lakshmi Mittal, who grew up walking on bare floors and sleeping in rope beds and became the richest man in the UK, launched a bid for Luxembourg-based Arcelor, run by mercurial Frenchman Guy Dolle. Mittal eventually won, but the story in between is as gripping as any James Bond movie. Published by Little, Brown it's in hardback at £20.

### For ladies what lunch

AN all-female networking lunch to raise funds for the Heart of Kent Hospice will take place later this month.

Professionally Pink is organised by Kent accountancy firm Horwath Clark Whitehill, in conjunction with Ansacom, Clydesdale Bank and Brachers.

It is aimed at women from regional local businesses and the next one takes place on Wednesday, September 10, at Souffle Restaurant in Bearsted, near Maidstone. Guest speaker is Caroline Brinkman, from the Heart of Kent Hospice.

Call 01622 767690 or e-mail [emilyrush@horwath.co.uk](mailto:emilyrush@horwath.co.uk)

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**EXPERT ADVICE:** Ways to tackle the credit crunch. Search 'credit'.



**HERE TO HELP:** Bob Jones of Business Link urges small to medium companies to come up with a business plan to help them ride the economic storm and continue to grow

## Feeling crunched? A plan could help you through

■ BY TONY PATEY

BUSINESS plans are the most vital blueprints for survival a firm can have – but one in every four companies in Kent doesn't have one, according to recent research.

Almost three-quarters of county firms – 72 per cent – believe a downturn in the UK economy would have a negative impact on their business, as one would expect, but 33 per cent of those don't have a business plan to help them ride out an economic storm.

That's the latest news from Business Link, which provides the information, advice and support businesses need to start, maintain and grow.

It also found that more than two thirds of small and medium sized businesses (SMEs) interviewed for its quarterly South East Business Monitor expect economic conditions in the UK to get worse over the next year.

With the housing market taking a hammering, construction companies understandably believe an economic downturn would have a

negative effect on their business – with a quarter saying it would have a strong negative impact – but the business and financial services sectors are less likely to believe that.

Business Link says only 62 per cent of those businesses – compared with 68 per cent across all industries – reckon their work would be hit hard by a downturn, possibly because they're focused on business-to-business markets and don't rely on the economic health of consumers.

Business Link's Bob Jones said: "Although not all businesses in Kent will be affected equally by the economic downturn, most are worried to some extent, so now is the time for them to take action."

"We work with more than 25,000 businesses and aspiring entrepreneurs across the county and our experience shows that growing companies are much more likely to take time out to plan for all eventualities. Those who plan should be better equipped to weather a storm."

"There are steps that can be taken to make battling a downturn in the economy that bit easier. Having a sound business plan in place is an excellent start and can allow companies to plan for various scenarios."

"You may need to think about improving cashflow, diversifying, exploring new markets, becoming more efficient, or focusing on your business's unique selling point (USP) such as the quality of your customer service."

"Even if you have a business plan, it is vital to review it. We have experienced advisers who can go through plans step-by-step – it's a free service, you really have nothing to lose."

Companies can take immediate action by making sure sound credit control systems are in place. The average small firm is owed £30,000 in unpaid invoices, with 29 per cent of businesses surveyed believing they would go bust if they were owed just £20,000.

Business Link has guides available and its Business Health Check to help companies analyse their finance and administration systems. Visit [www.businesslink.gov.uk/south-east/creditchunch](http://www.businesslink.gov.uk/south-east/creditchunch) or call 0845 6009006.



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## Last wicket evades Macknade attack

MACKNADE lost a tense game with Old Elthamians by just one wicket at the weekend.

Phil Rowcroft hit a half century for the Faversham side in their total of 182 all out. Darryl Cook claimed four wickets and Rowcroft three for Macknade, as the game went to the wire. But Macknade were unable to get the final wicket they needed as Old Elthamians reached their target for the loss of nine wickets.

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Olympic champion Jamie Staff reveals how he almost quit cycling in 2004

# Youngster hits a stunning ton as Upchurch close in

MICHAEL Hales junior scored a sparkling century to keep Upchurch in the hunt for promotion to Division Two.

The youngster hit a superb 104 not out from 91 balls including 17 fours and two sixes.

The home side got off to a flyer with captain Dean Headley and Jim Phillips putting on 80 for the first wicket.

After they were both ousted by Peter Huntley, Hales junior and Lee Taylor (41) picked up the mantle, putting together a valuable century partnership to put their side firmly in the driving seat.

After Hales junior reached his century, Headley decided to declare with eight

## CRICKET

BY GLENN PEARSON

overs to spare after seeing his side put together a total of 271-5.

The visitors bowled poorly, conceding 54 extras. Jared Bond bowled 14 wickets in just two overs.

In response, Walmer were never allowed to get going as Upchurch's bowlers applied the squeeze.

Adam Hodder took 3-11 and Kevin Collis 2-20 to help blow the visitors away for a paltry 79 in 28 overs. Upchurch recorded a huge 192-run victory which keeps them second in Division Three. A win against Minster on Saturday will ensure Headley's side are promoted.



Picture: CHRIS REAGAN

IN CONTROL: Upchurch took control with a determined display of batting

## Kent League Division Three

### Upchurch 1st XI v Walmer 1st XI

#### Upchurch

	Runs
Dean Headley b Huntley	39
Jim Phillips b Huntley	24
Lee Taylor b Huntley	41
Michael Hales jnr not out	104
Daniel Parker ct Huntley b Bond	0
Adam Hodder c & b Huntley	6
Michael Hales not out	3
Warren Little did not bat	
Kevin Collis did not bat	
Tim Mullis did not bat	
Andy Holmwood did not bat	
Extras (22b 4lb 26w 2nb)	54
<b>Total (5 wickets dec, 42 overs)</b>	<b>271</b>

#### Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Barry Green	11	0	71	0
Tom Mitchell	6	0	42	0
Peter Huntley	15	8	31	4
Joe Wilcox	8	0	70	0
Jared Bond	2	0	31	1

#### Walmer

	Runs
Jared Bond ct Phillips b Parker	0
Peter Morris ct Headley b Collis	37
Andrew Grigg run out	10
Joe Wilcox ct Hales b Collis	6
Barry Green b Hodder	4
Peter Huntley lbw b Hodder	2
Tom Mitchell b Hodder	0
Philip Ginger not out	0
Trevor Bond run out	0
Extras (2b 1lb 12w 5nb)	20
<b>Total (all out, 28 overs)</b>	<b>79</b>

#### Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Daniel Parker	0	1	6	1
Andy Holmwood	5	0	18	0
Michael Hales jnr	7	0	21	0
Kevin Collis	9	2	20	2
Adam Hodder	4	2	11	3

## LOCAL CRICKET ROUND-UP

### KENT LEAGUE DIVISION THREE

#### Linden Park 1st XI v Minster 1st XI

MINSTER'S batsmen failed to fire as they slumped to a disappointing 71-run defeat at Linden Park.

The home side registered a respectable 181-9 from their 50 overs, thanks largely to Abhijit Kale's excellent 54. Leg-spinner Henry Cooper was the star of the show for the Sheppey side as the Australian claimed superb figures of 6-64 to give his side a chance of victory.

However, when it was their turn to bat, Minster failed to build any meaningful partnerships and succumbed to Kale (3-31) and John Harvey (4-38).

#### Linden Park

Runs	
Tom Williams	b Rees 9
Kevin Anson	ct Duggan b Nichol 26
Stuart Clarke	ct Rees b Cooper 23
Abhijit Kale	ct Tucker b Cooper 54
John Harvey	lbw b Cooper 0
Ian Broadrick	ct Duggan b Cooper 2
Michael Brown	b Rees 12
Alex McDonald	ct Nichol b Cooper 30
James Saunders	lbw b Cooper 0
Brian Gasking	not out 3
Andy McBride	did not bat

Extras	22
<b>Total (9 wickets, 50 overs)</b>	<b>181</b>

#### Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Nathan Nichol	15	3	26	1
Mike Rees	15	3	57	2
Henry Cooper	15	0	64	6
Callum Hughes	1	0	6	0
Mark Tucker	4	0	14	0

#### Minster

		Runs
Neil Hosken	lbw b McBride	8
Henry Cooper	ct Saunders b Harvey	13
Joe O'Donoghue	lbw b Harvey	28
George Duggan	ct Anson b Kale	7
Mark Tucker	b Harvey	12
Nathan Nichol	b Kale	12
Callum Hughes	run out	0
Mike Rees	not out	18
Jordan Weller	ct Gasking b Kale	0
Lee Thwaites	run out	2
Joe Thompson	b Harvey	0

Extras	10
<b>Total (all out, 41.1 overs)</b>	<b>110</b>

#### Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Andy McBride	8	3	17	1
Brian Gasking	13	1	19	0
Abhijit Kale	13	2	31	3
John Harvey	12.1	1	38	4

### KENT LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

#### Gore Court 1st XI v Bromley 1st XI

A DEPLETED Gore Court side suffered a heavy 123-run defeat at The Grove on Saturday.

The home side were without Martin McCague, Steve Marsh and Adeel Hussain as they took on an experienced Bromley side. It was former Surrey batsman Nadeem Shahid who shone through as his 112 helped Bromley record 289-8. Grant Sheen also hit an unbeaten 77 for the visitors as all the Court bowlers suffered. Phil Edwards took six wickets, but his 13 overs cost 85 runs in the process.

In reply, Alex Hart top scored with 52 but Bromley bowled the home side out for 166 inside 36 overs.

#### Bromley

James Butterfill	.ct Marsh b Jones	Runs	34
Miguel Barbosa	.ct Jones b P Edwards		30
Nadeem Shahid	.b A Edwards		112
Matthew Walker	.ct Marsh b P Edwards		1
Grant Sheen	.not out		77
Matthew Dennington	.ct Campbell b P Edwards		12
Matthew Isaacs	.ct Marsh b P Edwards		2
Nicholas Bluet	.ct Marsh b P Edwards		2
Michael Bluet	.b P Edwards		0
Ruel Braithwaite	.not out		1
Robert Dummer	.did not bat		

Extras (4b 1lb 4w 9nb)	18
<b>Total (8 wickets dec, 50 overs)</b>	<b>289</b>

#### Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Philip Edwards	13	0	85	6
Adam Collins	3	0	22	0
Neville Talbot	4	0	18	0
Kevin Jones	4	0	18	1
Scott Edmed	13	0	70	0
Chris Piesley	2	0	7	0
Alex Edwards	7	0	35	1
Richard Cooper	4	0	29	0

#### Gore Court

	Runs
Alex Hart	b Isaacs 52
Chris Piesley	ct Dummer b Dennington 20
Christian Marsh	b Isaacs 15
Neville Talbot	ct Dennington b Shahid 12
Kevin Jones	lbw b Sheen 24
Richard Cooper	lbw b Isaacs 6
Philip Edwards	ct Dummer b Shahid 6
Alex Campbell	c & b Sheen 19
Scott Edmed	lbw b Sheen 0
Alex Edwards	b Sheen 0
Adam Collins	not out 11

Extras (3b 1lb 3w)	7
<b>Total (all out, 35.3 overs)</b>	<b>166</b>

#### Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Ruel Braithwaite	6	0	21	0
Michael Bluet	3	0	26	0
Matthew Dennington	4	0	21	1
Matthew Isaacs	8	2	27	3
Nadeem Shahid	10	0	47	2
Grant Sheen	4.3	0	20	4

### KENT LEAGUE DIVISION FOUR

#### Sidcup 1st XI v Rodmersham 1st XI

RODMERSHAM'S promotion hopes took a dent at the weekend as they lost to Sidcup by five wickets.

Asked to bat first, the visitors got off to a good start through Liam Foster and Dave Cogger, but once they departed the innings began to falter. Sandeep Rodrigo steadied the ship with 47, but Faisal Zaman's 4-34 ensured Rodmersham were bowled out for 146 after 42 overs.

Marc Bond and Nazoomi Azhar each claimed two wickets as Rodmersham tried to respond, but a composed unbeaten 71 from Kim O'Mara ensured his side romped to victory with more than two overs to spare.

#### Rodmersham

		Runs
Liam Foster	ct O'mara b Zaman	24
Dave Cogger	b Robinson	22
Marc Bond	ct Robinson b Zaman	1
Lee Jackson	ct Dark b Zaman	19
Sandeep Rodrigo	ct Dark b Mockler	47
Nazoomi Azhar	b Zaman	3
Robert Horne	ct Robinson b Mockler	5
Darren Nokes	run out	14
Chris Ansley	ct Pike b Mockler	0
Matthew Baker	ct Krishnamurthy b Robinson	0
James Bonney	not out	2

Extras (2b 4lb 3w)	9
<b>Total (all out, 42 overs)</b>	<b>146</b>

#### Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Thomas Beament	8	0	47	0
Faisal Zaman	15	6	34	4
Phil Robinson	9	2	27	2
Kevin Mockler	10	3	32	3

#### Sidcup

		Runs
Kevin Mockler	b Azhar	14
Mat Kilbey	b Azhar	2
Phil Robinson	ct Bonney b Rodrigo	18
Tim Dawes	b Marc Bond	2
Kim O'Mara	not out	71
S Krishnamurthy	ct Foster b Bond	2
Nicholas Pike	not out	21
Tim Cook	did not bat	
Dan Dark	did not bat	
Faisal Zaman	did not bat	
Thomas Beament	did not bat	

Extras (4b 6lb 2w 3nb)	15
<b>Total (5 wickets, 47.3 overs)</b>	<b>147</b>

#### Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Sandeep Rodrigo	16	3	67	1
Nazoomi Azhar	17	2	40	2
Marc Bond	8	1	17	2
Darren Nokes	6.3	3	13	0

### KENT LEAGUE DIVISION FIVE

#### Bapchild 1st XI v RACS 1st XI

A SUPERB performance from Bapchild's bowlers helped them to a comfortable four wicket win over RACS.

The visitors were blown away for 97 inside 43 overs, with all five Bapchild bowlers among the wickets. Left arm Matthew Roche was the pick of the attack with 4-12 from nine overs, while there were two wickets apiece for both Adam Larking and Barry Wood.

The Bapchild response didn't get off to the best of starts as they lost quick wickets in their run chase. They were indebted, however, to an unbeaten 36 from Larking as they reached their target for the loss of six wickets.

#### RACS

	Runs
Robert Donnelly	b Larking 30
John Ardley	ct Hampton b Lewis 1
Matthew Syrett	b Larking 19
Harry Purbrick	b Bryden 4
Shane Taylor	b Roche 18
Craig Poppett	b Roche 0
Steven Gibbons	lbw b Wood 6
Simon Dickie	b Roche 1
Paul Lane	c & b Roche 0
Josh Nwanazia	b Wood 3
Luke Meadowcroft	not out 2

Extras (6b 3lb 4w)	13
<b>Total (all out, 42.2 overs)</b>	<b>97</b>

#### Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Matt Lewis	5	1	23	1
Adam Larking	12	8	19	2
Lincoln Bryden	12	4	22	1
Matthew Roche	9	3	12	4
Barry Wood	4.2	1	12	2

#### Bapchild

	Runs	
<b>Ricky Dale</b> .....	ct Meadowcroft b Syrett	19
<b>Alan Hampton</b> .....	run out	4
<b>Ben Fulton</b> .....	c & b Purbrick	2
<b>Lee Taylor</b> .....	ct Gibbons b Syrett	12
<b>Adam Larking</b> .....	not out	36
<b>John Heatley</b> .....	b Purbrick	9
<b>Lincoln Bryden</b> .....	ct Taylor b Purbrick	13
<b>Matthew Roche</b> .....	not out	0
<b>Matt Lewis</b> .....	did not bat.	
<b>Nicholas Page</b> .....	did not bat.	
<b>Barry Wood</b> .....	did not bat.	

Extras (2lb 1w)	3
<b>Total (6 wickets, 32 overs)</b>	<b>98</b>

#### Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Simon Dickie	11	2	29	0
Luke Meadowcroft	7	3	17	0
Harry Purbrick	5	0	15	3
Matthew Syrett	5	0	19	2
Robert Donnelly	4	0	13	0



# Milton leaves it late to see Brickies through

## FOOTBALL

BY GLENN PEARSON

### Sittingbourne 2 Chertsey 1

AN INJURY time winner from Dave Milton helped Sittingbourne into the next round of the FA Cup.

The midfielder netted in the 92nd minute for the injury-ravaged Brickies to set up an away trip to Kent League side Erith & Belvedere.

Boss Gary Abbott was forced to field veteran Steve Williams in goal as Rob French's broken hand prevented him playing.

Missing too were the injured Pat Gradley who was on the subs bench, Tom Bradbrook still recovering from his injury and Ryan Johnson, who has been recalled by Welling.

Winger Hicham Akhazzan was also unavailable, as was Andre Marques, which left Abbott with a selection nightmare that was partially solved by naming three of the under-18 side as substitutes.

Chertsey took a 12th minute lead through a thundering header from Steve Gibson and it was only a moment of magic by defender Grant Duff that pulled Sittingbourne level. Duff spotted Chertsey keeper Dave Tidy off his line and he lobbed the ball from 35 yards over Tidy's head and into the net.

The second half was a thoroughly entertaining affair as both sides had periods of supremacy and the game looked to be heading for a replay in Surrey until Milton struck. He picked up a long ball from Joe Horlock and cut inside to crash the ball into the Chertsey net.



Picture: CHRIS REAN

**WINNER:** Midfielder Dave Milton scored a late goal for the Brickies to see them through to the next round of the FA Cup

The Brickies could soon have a permanent goalkeeper after Chris Lewington, who featured at the end of last season on-loan from Fisher Athletic, has asked to join the club on a permanent basis. However, Abbott is left in a quandary over the position as he has Rob French on-loan from Ebbsfleet.

He said: "Chris is fed up with being second choice and going out on loan to other clubs. We have had a chat with him and he wants to

come and join us permanently. Obviously we have Rob French until September 16 and he has done really well with us.

"It will be nice to have a permanent goalkeeper because I have not had that since I have been here. It would be nice to sign him permanently and not worry about it, but we can't knock Rob so we will have to think about that and see what happens in the next couple of weeks."

## Luchford feels side are starting to find form

## FOOTBALL

FAVERSHAM Town boss Justin Luchford believes his side are starting to show the kind of form he expects of them.

The Lilywhites go into this weekend's clash away at Tunbridge Wells on the back of a 5-1 thrashing of Lordwood at Salters Lane on Bank Holiday Monday.

Town were without a game at the weekend but the break will allow the players time to continue getting used to each other in training.

Josh Maasbach and Steve O'Brien have arrived from Dover on-loan while Simon Brown has left the club and Aaron O'Leary has taken some time out.

The win against Lordwood pleased Luchford, but more so because he finally feels his midfield is coming together.

He said: "The display against Lordwood was better. The front lads did well, but the last two games have really shown we are starting to get to grips with the midfield. Shane [Hamshire] and Josh are really starting to get an understanding, which is paying dividends. Josh has two goals in



**POSITIVE:** Justin Luchford is sure his team will reach their targets this month

two matches and appears to be enjoying himself."

Targets are important for Luchford, and despite his side not meeting theirs in August, he fully expects to do so this month.

He said: "Six points out of nine, one short of the target we set, is not a bad start. We move into September with a new target and we are all working towards reaching those targets.

"The support is excellent and we are getting there, September is a tough month, but the players and I can't wait."

## Taylor still positive despite penalty anger

## FOOTBALL

### Holmesdale 3 Norton Sports 2

NORTON manager Ben Taylor was furious with the referee after seeing his side give up a two-goal advantage at Holmesdale.

The league newcomers took the lead through a Tony Clark header and Scott Appleton's pile driver from 18-yards doubled their advantage. The home side were awarded what Norton believe was a contentious second half penalty scored by Lee Morgan. Joel Greaves then beat the off-side calls to net an equaliser in the 68th minute, before Morgan won the game for his side two minutes later.

Taylor was so incensed with the decisions he confronted the referee after the game and was duly sent off.

The Norton boss later apologised to his players for his actions but admits the club are likely to make a formal complaint.

He said: "We are just not getting the rub of the green at the moment. We played really well in the first half and could have



Picture: IAN KIRBY

**TOUGH LUCK:** Norton were denied three points in their clash at Holmesdale

scored a couple more goals, but in the second half it all went wrong. I take losing on the chin but if you lose like that it is gutting."

It's not been an easy start for Norton, but their performances, which included a win against Beckenham Town, have given Taylor cause for optimism.

He said: "I don't think there is anything to fear. I feel if we can string a few wins together we could easily be a mid-table side."



Picture: ADY KERRY

**IN THE RUNS:** Kent vice-captain Martin van Jaarsveld

## Kent still in the hunt for double glory

## CRICKET

KENT go into tomorrow's clash with Surrey still in with a chance of winning the County Championship.

Rob Key's side played out a thrilling draw with Yorkshire last week, a game in which Kent came back from the dead and almost claimed what seemed an unlikely victory.

The draw has left them third in Division One of the Championship, nine points behind leaders Nottinghamshire.

Key was without the services of vital all-rounders Yasir Arafat, Azhar Mahmood and Justin Kemp for the game at Scarborough, but hopes to have them back for Thursday's visit of Surrey to St Lawrence.

Martin van Jaarsveld was the rock of the first innings after he scored 107 of a disappointing total of 227. A sparkling 146 from Jacques Rudolph helped the Tykes, together with half centuries from Anthony McGrath and Adam Lyth, to 457 and a lead of 230. Neil Dexter held the Kent second innings together with 105, but a partnership between James Tredwell and Ryan McLaren helped them to 433.

Robbie Joseph claimed the prize wicket of former England captain Michael Vaughan for a 14-ball duck as Yorkshire struggled against a rampant Kent bowling attack.

When skipper Darren Gough departed with the score on 166-9, Kent and Key would have fancied their chances of claiming a famous victory, but former England seamer Matthew Hoggard and Deon Kruis managed to keep out the remaining 28 balls to deny the visitors the win.

While Key's side continue to do well in the Championship, they are also close to gaining promotion to Division One in the Pro40 competition. Rain ruined their game at Northampton on Monday, but a win against Surrey at the Oval yesterday could have seen them climb to second spot.

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